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From: "Washington Chapter, T2S" <washtts@millkern.com>
To: ACP.ACPgate("WASHT2S.List@millkern.com")
Date: Sat, Oct 17, 1998 1:03 pm
Subject: Tech Transfer Society Oct 22 Brown Bag Luncheon

Technology Transfer Society - Washington Area Chapter

Brown Bag Luncheon Series for Member and Guests

Current Science and Technology Issues at OSTP

At the October 22, 1998, Technology Transfer Society Brown Bag Lunch, we are privileged to have Dr. Duncan Moore, Associate Director for Technology at the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy, speak on the subject of *Current Science and Technology Issues at OSTP.*

Dr. Moore has extensive experience in the academic, research, business, and governmental areas of science and technology. An expert in optical systems, he has also served as the Science Advisor to Senator John D. Rockefeller IV of West Virginia, founded and served as former president of Gradient Lens Corporation in Rochester, been elected to the National Academy of Engineering, and received many awards from local and international organizations. Dr. Moore has a bachelor's degree in physics from the University of Maine and master's and Ph.D. in optics from the University of Rochester.

In addition, please mark your calendars for our Brown Bag Lunch on November 19 when we look forward to having Dr. Phyllis G. Yoshida, Acting Director of the Office of International Technology Policy of the U.S. Department of Commerce Technology Administration as our speaker.

Date: Thursday, October 22, 1998

Time: Noon to 1:30 p.m.

Place: American Association for the Advancement of Science
Building
1200 New York Avenue, NW. (near Metro Center)
Haskins/Abelson Conference Rooms
No reservation or RSVP is necessary

Please feel free to forward, circulate, or post this announcement.

Cosponsored by the AAAS Science and Policy Programs
Directorate

S 000201

From: Paul Elliott (Paul Elliot)
To: JBARKER, SBENKA, JKUMAGAI, WKORNBER, TFEDER, BSCHW...
Date: Wed, Oct 21, 1998 6:39 pm
Subject: My schedule (and possibly yours)

I will be out of the office and DC area on Thursday and Friday. If you have copy for me to copyedit, you can leave it on the office chair I use or in the mailbox I use.

If you have an urgent need to talk with me, leave a message on my home answering machine (703/256-6351). I will not be calling in to PT for messages.

I will be back at PT on Monday.

Looking ahead, I will also be out of the office on October 30 and November 2.

Please keep the above schedule in mind when planning your own work on the December issue--and my copyediting involvement. Also bear in mind that I am currently copyediting a feature article, expect to start work on another when when I return next Monday, and also plan to continue my own work on "Letters" (and completing that department by November 3).

Paul

CC: cday,rfitzger,tgary,squarles,eplotkin

S 000202

From: Warren Kornberg
To: PELLIOT, CDAY, SBENKA, apsdpost.GOODWIN, i:interpo...
Date: Thu, Oct 22, 1998 11:30 am
Subject: time passes

Paul et al:

Is it our fate to abide with the know-nothings or will we be true to our calling and consider the millenium to begin with 1 January 2001?

w

S 000203

From: Jeff Schmidt
To: PELLIOT
Date: Fri, Nov 27, 1998 6:19 pm
Subject: Felber Letter to the Editor -Reply

Recommendation: Publish.

I am sure that many of our readers would have wanted an even longer Vogel article, with additional examples. Felber's letter is such an extension. It would have made a great sidebar in the article. Instead, it will make a great letter. Check it out with Vogel first.

In the second sentence of the big paragraph, change "scales as" to "is"; that's a lot easier to understand, I think.

Jeff
27 November 1998

CC: jschmidt

S 000204

From: Toni Feder <tfeder@wam.umd.edu>
To: stephen benka <sbenka@aip.acp.org>, charles day <c...
Date: Wed, Nov 11, 1998 2:22 pm
Subject: [Fwd: LUCENT/HOPKINS SCIENTISTS EXPLAIN MYSTERIOUS SHRINKING MATERIAL]

thought i'd pass this on.

--toni

S 000205

From: "Eisenberg, Steve (Steve)" <seisenberg@lucent.com>
To: ACP.ACPgate("tfeder@wam.umd.edu")
Date: Wed, Nov 11, 1998 1:16 pm
Subject: LUCENT/HOPKINS SCIENTISTS EXPLAIN MYSTERIOUS SHRINKING MATERIAL

EDITOR'S NOTE: THIS NEWS RELEASE WAS JOINTLY ISSUED BY LUCENT TECHNOLOGIES AND THE JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY.

Steve Eisenberg
Lucent Technologies
908-582-7474 (office)
609-252-1273 (home)
seisenberg@lucent.com

Gary Dorsey
The Johns Hopkins University
410-516-7906 (office)
gdd@jhu.edu

EMBARGOED FOR RELEASE UNTIL 2 P.M. EST, WEDNESDAY, NOV. 11, 1998

WHEN THE HEAT'S ON, MATERIAL SHRINKS INSTEAD OF EXPANDING; LUCENT AND JOHNS HOPKINS SCIENTISTS EXPLAIN MYSTERY IN NOV. 12 NATURE

Murray Hill, N.J. -- Most materials shrink when cooled and expand when heated, but researchers at Lucent Technologies and The Johns Hopkins University have discovered why one ceramic material has totally opposite behavior.

Although several materials exhibit the same unusual phenomenon as zirconium tungstate, it is the only one that both shows the behavior around room temperature and acts peculiarly at a constant clip. (The overall shrinkage or expansion rate is 0.0005 percent for each degree from -375 degrees to 700 degrees Fahrenheit.)

This phenomenon occurs, the researchers report in the Nov. 12 issue of the journal Nature, because the material's atoms vibrate at low frequencies, causing the material to fold in on itself when heated.

Because zirconium tungstate can counteract unwanted shrinkage or expansion effects in other materials, it may have industrial applications. One possible application is forming composite-based components in next-generation fiber optic technology for optical networking.

Even though zirconium tungstate was first synthesized in 1959, it largely escaped the interest of scientists until recently. In 1968, for instance, researchers at Penn State University discovered the material's peculiar properties, but ignored the finding because they were looking for materials that did not expand or shrink at all. Then, two years ago, Oregon State University researchers realized that the material had the uniquely constant qualities over the wide temperature range.

Although scientists knew the atomic structure of zirconium tungstate, they did not understand the material's inner workings, such as how its atoms moved around. This information is crucial when scientists are trying to make new materials with similar properties.

A common technique used to understand a material's internal vibrations is shooting subatomic particles -- known as neutrons -- at its atoms and then recording the speeds and angles at which the particles fly off. Based on these neutron scattering experiments, the researchers discovered that the material vibrates at very low frequencies.

One explanation for the unusually low frequency is that one corner, or atom, of the material's pyramid-shaped building block is untethered and exhibits low vibrational energy. As temperatures increase, this untethered atom begins pulling in its neighboring atoms, and the overall structure shrinks. Meanwhile, in a closely packed structure, which occurs in most materials, atoms repel each other as temperatures increase because there are no available spaces, and the material expands.

S 000206

"This information about zirconium tungstate is very important," said physicist Art Ramirez of Bell Labs, Lucent's research and development arm, "because it eventually might lead to making materials with similar properties, but at a reduced cost and perhaps with greater ease."

Currently, Lucent is evaluating a zirconium tungstate composite material - developed by Bell Labs ceramic engineer Debra Fleming -- as a potential packaging material for a "filter," or grating, used in glass optical fiber. The material's unique shrinkage properties would compensate exactly for variations in the glass fiber as temperature change. Otherwise, multiple wavelengths, or channels, of light transmitted through a fiber would become a scrambled mess. This will be especially important as the number of transmission channels - a process known as Dense Wave-Division Multiplexing - continues to grow, thus boosting the capacity of fiber optic transmissions.

The other authors of the Nature article include physicist Gabriele Ernst and chemist Glen Kowach of Bell Labs and physicist Collin Broholm of Johns Hopkins in Baltimore. The experiments were performed at the Center for Neutron Research at the National Institute of Standards and Technology, Gaithersburg, Md.

Lucent Technologies (LU) designs, builds, and delivers a wide range of public and private networks, communications systems and software, consumer and business telephone systems and microelectronics components. Bell Labs is the research and development arm of the company. For more information about Lucent Technologies, headquartered at Murray Hill, N.J., visit our web site at www.lucent.com.

The Johns Hopkins University, an international center for both undergraduate and graduate study and research, is a privately endowed, coeducational institution based in Baltimore, with facilities throughout the Baltimore-Washington area and abroad. Johns Hopkins University news releases can be found at http://www.jhu.edu/news_info/news/

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S 000207

Received: from wilson.acpub.duke.edu
([152.3.233.69])
by acpgate.acp.org; Wed, 11 Nov 1998 14:20:45 -0500
Received: from wam.umd.edu (async251-37.async.duke.edu [152.3.251.37])
by wilson.acpub.duke.edu (8.8.5/Duke-4.6.0) with ESMTTP id OAA10854;
Wed, 11 Nov 1998 14:20:39 -0500 (EST)
Message-ID: <3649E3E7.D0B87511@wam.umd.edu>
Date: Wed, 11 Nov 1998 14:22:18 -0500
From: Toni Feder <tfeder@wam.umd.edu>
Reply-To: tfeder@wam.umd.edu
Organization: Physics Today
X-Mailer: Mozilla 4.04 (Macintosh; I; PPC)
MIME-Version: 1.0
To: stephen benka <sbenka@aip.acp.org>, charles day <cday@aip.org>,
gloria lubkin <glubkin@aip.acp.org>,
bertram schwarzschild <bschwarz@aip.acp.org>,
barbara levi <bgl@worldnet.att.net>,
jeff schmidt <jschmidt@aip.acp.org>,
rich fitzgerald <rfitzger@aip.acp.org>
Subject: [Fwd: LUCENT/HOPKINS SCIENTISTS EXPLAIN MYSTERIOUS SHRINKING MATERIAL]
Content-Type: multipart/mixed; boundary="-----E5E3A4C26287B37064945955"

S 000208

From: "Jeff Schmidt" <jschmidt@aip.acp.org>
To: ACP.ACPgate("tfeder@wam.umd.edu")
Date: Mon, Oct 5, 1998 9:50 pm
Subject: Praise for Jeff & Gloria -Reply

Dear Toni,

Thanks for the help, which I certainly need at this point. And thanks for knowing to send a copy to Harris and not just to Benka. See you soon,

Jeff

CC: ACP.AIP(JSCHMIDT)

S 000209

Received: from acpgate.acp.org
([149.28.226.101])
by acpgate.acp.org; Mon, 05 Oct 1998 21:57:24 -0400
Received: from ACP-Message_Server by acpgate.acp.org
with Novell_GroupWise; Mon, 05 Oct 1998 21:57:24 -0400
Message-Id: <s61940c4.084@acpgate.acp.org>
X-Mailer: Novell GroupWise 5.2
Date: Mon, 05 Oct 1998 21:50:32 -0400
From: "Jeff Schmidt" <jschmidt@aip.acp.org>
To: tfeder@wam.umd.edu
Cc: jschmidt@aip.acp.org
Subject: Praise for Jeff & Gloria -Reply
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-Disposition: inline

S 000210

From: Tonya Gary
To: CDAY, JSCHMIDT, RFITZGER, BSCHWARZ
Date: 30 Sep 1998 (Wed) 14:27
Subject: Blurbs for December -Forwarded

S 000211

From: Abby Klar
To: TGARY
Date: 30 Sep 1998 (Wed) 14:09
Subject: Blurbs for December

It's that time again! Please have the editors sent their blurbs for December PT to my attention, no later than this Friday. Thanks for your help.

S 000212

From: Tonya Gary
To: PT Staff
Date: 30 Sep 1998 (Wed) 10:34
Subject: Reminder - Articles Meeting

The articles meeting will be held tomorrow at 2:00 in the conference room. There will be a discussion at around 3:00 on "Physics in Developing Countries" in response to Lennart Hasselgren's memo which was distributed last week.

You are welcome to join the meeting or the discussion.

S 000213

From: Steven Benka
To: jschmidt
Date: 29 Sep 1998 (Tue) 18:07
Subject: Ertl article -Reply

Jeff,

We really only need one materials science article to fulfill the editorial calendar, and Rich's article will certainly be ready. However, . . .
Ertl was very prompt in producing the article: He agreed to write it in early March and delivered it in early June. I would thus very much like to expedite production of his article, and run it, too, in December if possible.

Thanks for asking.

--Steve

>>> Jeff Schmidt 09/29/98 02:06pm >>>
Steve --

I noticed that on the tentative schedule of articles, Ertl is listed in bold, as is another article. Does that mean that we need Ertl for the December issue? Ertl is away for the next three weeks, but if we need the article for December, I can try to find out if his coauthor can make the revisions that the reviewers call for. (Ertl gave his coauthor a copy of the reviews before he left.)

-- Jeff

S 000214

From: Paul Elliott (Paul Elliot)
To: sbenka
Date: 30 Sep 1998 (Wed) 20:07
Subject: Your Inquiry re Submitting Article on Cold Fusion -Reply

SB:

Attached is an interesting articles inquiry I have received from Scott Chubb on the subject of cold fusion and looking toward the upcoming 10th anniversary of the Pons/Fleischmann announcement--prefaced by my acknowledgment notice sent to Chubb.

I am sending copies of this e-mail to TF and JS because I seem to recall that they have a special interest in the subject--and there's an articles meeting scheduled for tomorrow.

PE

>>> Paul Elliott (Paul Elliot) 09/30/98 07:55pm >>>
Dr. Scott R. Chubb
Code 7252
Naval Research Laboratory
Washington, D. C. 20375-5351

Dear Scott,

Your e-mailed inquiry arrived this morning (as a follow-up to our phone conversation last week), and I am passing it on our articles editors, who will review it and then contact you directly. Don't be perturbed if you don't get an immediate answer, in that we are currently heading into closing week, which tends to be a bit busy around here).

Sincerely,

Paul

Paul Elliott
Letters Editor
Physics Today

From: <chubb@ccsalpha2.nrl.navy.mil>
To: ACP.AIP(PELLIOT)
Date: 9/30/98 10:11am

Sept. 29, 1998

Paul Elliott
PHYSICS TODAY
American Center for Physics
One Physics Ellipse
College Park, MD 20740-3843

PHONE: 301-209-3041, FAX: 301-209-0842
EMAIL: pelliott@aip.acp.org

Paul,

Below, I am including a two paragraph inquiry concerning a potential PHYSICS TODAY article, dealing with Cold Fusion. Because 23 March 1999 will mark the 10th anniversary of the initial Cold Fusion announcement by Pons and Fleischmann, it might be useful to consider including either this article or one similar to it in the March or April 1999 issue of PHYSICS TODAY. The focus of the article that I am suggesting deals only partly with the history of Cold Fusion. In order to be used as a commemorative article describing the evolution of the field over the last ten years, this idea for an article could be modified to include additional history about the subject. (Possibly this would be useful since most of the information about Cold Fusion is not found in mainstream scientific publications).

As you will see from the two paragraph inquiry, I do suggest that the article include some history. However, this is not its primary emphasis. Instead, greater emphasis is placed on potential lessons learned from the associated debate, such as 1.) the impact on the process of information dissemination that has resulted from the failure by established journals to disclose highly controversial information (regardless of whether or not the

S 000215

information is right or wrong), 2) the impact of Information Era technologies (FAX machines and the Internet) on information dissemination, and 3.) the impact of these technologies on the review process. Also, I should point out that I am initially suggesting a (tentative) list of potential authors. This list could be shortened or broadened. The list is based on material that I have received while I have been serving as a special guest editor of the Gordon Breach journal, "Accountability in Research," for a special issue dealing with Cold Fusion, that is scheduled for publication during 1999. Please feel free to contact me concerning my inquiry or related issues.

SCOTT CHUBB

Dr. Scott R. Chubb
Code 7252
Naval Research Laboratory
Washington, DC 20375-5351

PHONE: 202-767-5270, FAX: 202-767-3303
EMAIL: chubb@ccf.nrl.navy.mil

"Beyond the Cold Fusion 'Madness'"

by

Scott R. Chubb[a], Talbot A. Chubb[b], David J. Nagel[a],
David L. Goodstein[c], George H. Miley[d],
John O. M. Bockris[e], Francesco Scaramuzzi[f],
and David Lindley [g]

[a]Naval Research Laboratory
[b]Oakton International Corporation, Arlington, VA
[c]California Institute of Technology
[d]University of Illinois at Champaign/Urbana (Editor, ANS journal "Fusion Technology")
[e]Texas A and M University
[f]ENEA, Frascati, Italy
[g]Science News (formerly, Editor, NATURE magazine)

For a short time, during 1989, a form of Madness gripped the Physics World. It began with a press conference on 23 March, in which two chemists, Dr. Stanley Pons and Dr. Martin Fleischmann, claimed they had discovered room temperature nuclear fusion reactions. Within hours, scientists throughout the world dropped what they were doing and attempted to reproduce the effect. In the resulting frenzy, speculation ran rampant. Disclosure of results occurred by press conference, FAX, and the Internet. Mistakes were made. Claims of positive results were countered by claims of negative results. After six weeks, "Cold Fusion Madness" reached a fever pitch and then subsided. Orderliness returned. Eventually, most physicists agreed that Cold Fusion probably does not exist, and interest in the field waned. However, after 10 years, there are lingering questions about the Cold Fusion episode: Could Pons and Fleischmann have possibly discovered some new form of nuclear reaction, other than a room temperature version of conventional fusion? And if they did, with the Physics World in such an uproar, would it have been possible for most physicists to recognize this fact? Is "Cold Fusion" "Fire from Ice,"[1] or just another example of "Bad Science." [2] Despite what most physicists might think, beyond the initial period of "Cold Fusion Madness," active research in this area has continued, and these lingering questions remain unanswered. Indeed, with each new report of Cold Fusion excess heat and possible nuclear by-products, new questions surface: Are the experiments flawed; or are room temperature nuclear reactions really possible? Is a new paradigm for nuclear physics in a solid necessary; or, are all of these speculations so much hogwash? Perhaps equally astonishing is that although mainstream science all but ignores Cold Fusion, work not only continues, but claims persist that not only have the initial results of Pons and Fleischmann been reproduced, but that potentially Cold Fusion may offer a revolutionary form of clean, efficient energy.

During the initial days following the period of "Cold Fusion Madness," "skeptics" debated "non-skeptics" about the reality of the effect.

S 000216

However, sparked by spontaneity made possible by the Internet, this debate has intensified, and a second form of controversy has erupted. Battle lines have been drawn "Skeptics" have become "Pathological Skeptics;" while "non skeptics" have become "True Believers," and the resulting "debate" has frequently resembled more a battle between adamantly opposed religions, than scientific discourse. On one side, the "Pathological Skeptics"[2] view "Cold Fusion" as simply impossible; while on the other, "True Believers"[1] view a failure to believe in Cold Fusion as a form of scientific bigotry. In the end, either Cold Fusion is real, or it is nonsense, and given enough time and funding, scientists will resolve this issue. But for this to occur sooner, as opposed to later, information about scientific progress in the field has to be made available to mainstream scientists. Given this requirement and the fact that the Internet is the primary vehicle for publicizing information about the field, one must ask, is the present situation beneficial? Is it possible to look beyond the theatrics of the on-going debate, and find a way for valuable discourse to take place? Also, one must ask, why is Cold Fusion information relegated to the Internet and not found in journals? Is this because there simply is nothing to Cold Fusion? Or is it because of a breakdown of science and the fact that scientists have failed to look "Beyond the Cold Fusion Madness" of 1989? In this article, we address these points in particular. We also provide some of the relevant information associated with the debate, including specific details about some of the more refined experimental claims. Our focus is not on which side of the debate is correct. We believe this will be resolved by experimental measurements, at some point in the future. Instead, we attempt to go "Beyond the Cold Fusion Madness" of 1989 by focusing on lessons that the episode and on-going debate have taught us about the review and dissemination of scientific information related to potentially high pay-off technology during the Information Age.

[1]Eugene F. Mallove, "Fire from Ice: Searching for the Truth behind the Cold Fusion Furor." (John Wiley and Sons, New York, 1991), 334 pp.

[2]Gary Taubes, "Bad Science: the Short Life and Weird Times of Cold Fusion." (Random House, New York, 1993), 503 pp.

CC: I:tfeder@wam.umd.edu, jschmidt

S 000217

From: Stephen Benka
To: PT
Date: 2 Oct 1998 (Fri) 16:16
Subject: I will be out of the office

I will be out of the office for some of next week. I (and others on the staff) will be at the OSA meeting in Baltimore. I plan to be here in the office at least briefly in the morning or evening each day next week. You can leave closing-related items for me, preferably with Tonya, and I'll get them.

--Steve

S 000218

From: Stephen Benka
To: PT
Date: 1 Oct 1998 (Thu) 11:54
Subject: Indexing the May issue

Judy and I will meet tomorrow (Friday, 2 October) at 11am in our PT library, to decide how to index the May "50th Anniversary" issue. Anyone who wants to join us is welcome.

--Steve

S 000219

From: Sharon Quarles
To: PT Staff
Date: 22 Sep 1998 (Tue) 15:33
Subject: Minutes to 15 September Staff Meeting

S 000220

P.T. STAFF MEETING
15 September 1998
MINUTES

Attendees:

J. Barker
S. Benka
P. Elliott
T. Feder
R. Fitzgerald
T. Gary I. Goodwin
C. Harris
W. Kornberg
J. Kumagai
B. Levi
G. Lubkin
E. Plotkin
S. Quarles
J. Schmidt
M. Smith
R. Wehrenberg

Call for comments on APS Task Force Report

Marcia Schlissel-Zelin Farewell

- Marcia will be in College Park on 29 September, a farewell will be coordinated with Abby Klar

PT Production Schedule

- Steve Benka will begin working on the production schedule for '99 within a few weeks

PT Advisory Committee Meeting

- Scheduled for 20-21 November
- Charles Harris is working with Dan Kleppner to establish the agenda
- Format: Specific members address specific issues

Staff Retreat

- Open for suggestions on the retreat, retreat may be canceled for this year
- Possible future collaborations with both editorial and advertising staff
- Advertising staff retreat is scheduled for 15 October at Belmont

APS Centenary

- Gloria Lubkin is working on articles
- Gloria currently has 3 articles with the prospect of 5 articles

Web Site

- Suggestion to work in combination with APS on plans for future web expansion/modification
- Suggestion to become more competitive with other leading journals' web pages terms of breaking news
- Searchable Index has been placed on the web

S 000221

- Suggestion to find an accurate search engine for the web
- Graham Collins' web macros need to be located
- NOTE: Until the staff is increased to meet the needs of further web expansion development in this area is limited

AIP Overhead Charges

- AIP is now implementing an overhead charge of 24%
- PT may increase subscription charges to help defray this expense

Library

- Barbara Levi to meet during the week of 19 September with Tonya and Mari discuss the maintenance of the library

Style Task Force

- Jean Kumagai, Bert Schwarzschild, Paul Elliott, and Jeff Schmidt to meet next staff meeting--20 October

Next Staff Meeting

- 2:00pm Wednesday, 20 October
3rd Floor Conference

S 000222

Received: from plano.sff.net (plano.greyware.com [207.55.146.51])
by po0.wam.umd.edu (8.9.0.Beta6/8.9.0.Beta6) with SMTP id
TAA00532;

Wed, 30 Sep 1998 19:41:47 -0400 (EDT)

Received: from GPC (unverified [199.174.130.30]) by plano.sff.net
(EMWAC SMTPRS 0.83) with SMTP id <B0000851246@plano.sff.net>;

Wed, 30 Sep 1998 18:41:22 -0500

Message-Id: <1.5.4.16.19980930234103.36171458@pop.sff.net>

X-Sender: gpc@pop.sff.net

X-Mailer: Windows Eudora Light Version 1.5.4 (16)

Mime-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Date: Wed, 30 Sep 1998 19:41:03 -0400

To: jak@interport.net, jeff@wam.umd.edu, tfeder@wam.umd.edu,
lugenbold@juno.com

From: "Graham P. Collins" <gpc@sff.net>

Subject: Echelon

Status:

X-Mozilla-Status: 0005

Content-Length: 1444

If you're not feeling sufficiently paranoid....

<http://www.wired.com/news/news/politics/story/15295.html>

Eavesdropping on Europe
by Niall McKay

4:00 a.m. 30.Sep.98.PDT

If the European Parliament has its way, the lid is about to come off what is
reputedly one of the most powerful, secretive, and extensive spy networks in
history -- if, in fact, it really exists.

In October, Europe's governing body will commission a full report into the
workings of Echelon, a global network of highly sensitive listening posts
operated in part by America's most clandestine intelligence organization,
the National Security Agency.

"Frankly, the only people who have any doubt about the existence of Echelon
are in the United States," said Glyn Ford, a British member of the European
Parliament and a director of Scientific and Technical Options Assessment, or
STOA, a technology advisory committee to the parliament.

Echelon is reportedly able to intercept, record, and translate any
electronic communication -- telephone, data, cellular, fax, email, telex --
sent anywhere in the world. The parliamentary report will focus on concerns
that the system has expanded and is now zeroed in on the secrets of European
companies and elected officials.

[etc]

S 000223

Graham P. Collins
Ph & Fax: 301-474-5471
E-mail: gpc@nasw.org
<http://nasw.org/users/gpc>

Received: from plano.sff.net (plano.greyware.com [207.55.146.51])
by po2.wam.umd.edu (8.9.0.Beta6/8.9.0.Beta6) with SMTP id
BAA15800;

Fri, 9 Oct 1998 01:02:05 -0400 (EDT)

Received: from GPC (unverified [199.174.173.185]) by plano.sff.net
(EMWAC SMTPRS 0.83) with SMTP id <B0000884192@plano.sff.net>;

Fri, 09 Oct 1998 00:00:26 -0500

Message-Id: <1.5.4.16.19981009050015.0e77ce62@pop.sff.net>

X-Sender: gpc@pop.sff.net

X-Mailer: Windows Eudora Light Version 1.5.4 (16)

Mime-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Date: Fri, 09 Oct 1998 01:00:15 -0400

To: jak@interport.net, jeff@wam.umd.edu, tfeder@wam.umd.edu,
lugenbold@juno.com

From: "Graham P. Collins" <gpc@sff.net>

Subject: Vindication! :-)

Status:

X-Mozilla-Status: 0005

Content-Length: 524

New Scientist, October 7 issue...

DON'T GET EVEN, GET MAD

When it looks like you just can't win, what's the most rational thing
to do? Try going completely crazy. The bag of mathematical tricks
called game theory is supposed to help people to find a way out
when they're faced with conflict. But game theory breaks down
because it cannot cope with the irrational influences caused by
emotions. British researchers believe they have now solved this
problem with an idea they call drama theory. Pages 26-31

S 000224

Received: from rac8.wam.umd.edu ((IDENT root)@rac8.wam.umd.edu [128.8.10.148])
by po4.wam.umd.edu (8.9.0.Beta6/8.9.0.Beta6) with ESMTP id
GAA01451;
Thu, 8 Oct 1998 06:21:15 -0400 (EDT)
Received: from rac8.wam.umd.edu ((IDENT sendmail)@localhost [127.0.0.1])
by rac8.wam.umd.edu (8.9.0.Beta6/8.9.0.Beta6) with SMTP id
GAA01891;
Thu, 8 Oct 1998 06:21:13 -0400 (EDT)
Received: from localhost by rac8.wam.umd.edu (8.9.0.Beta6/8.9.0.Beta6) with SMTP
id GAA01886;
Thu, 8 Oct 1998 06:21:12 -0400 (EDT)
X-Authentication-Warning: rac8.wam.umd.edu: tfeder owned process doing -bs
Date: Thu, 8 Oct 1998 06:21:12 -0400 (EDT)
From: toni feder <tfeder@wam.umd.edu>
To: Jeff Schmidt <jeff@wam.umd.edu>
cc: lugenbold@juno.com, gpc@sff.net
Subject: Re: dinner(+) next week?
In-Reply-To: <361C8180.8E5@wam.umd.edu>
Message-ID: <Pine.GSO.3.95q.981008062039.1874A-100000@rac8.wam.umd.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII
Status:
X-Mozilla-Status: 0015
Content-Length: 908

Hi Jeff, Graham, Paul,

I am going to try to leave town tomorrow (Friday)-- too soon, as I'd actually prefer to stay til Sat, but we have guests coming to Durham, so unless I am exhausted, I will head back tomorrow. So, that means that Thursday is better for me-- and that depends still on my getting my stories all into final final form. But let's plan for this evening -- even though Paul won't be able to make it. I'm working in Jeff's office, tough calls to my number should be forwarded to me (301 209 3054).

Still home right now-- woke up too early.

Later!
Toni

On Thu, 8 Oct 1998, Jeff Schmidt wrote:

> Greetings all,
>
> Thursday or Friday are good for me.
>
> Toni: If we are to meet on Thursday, would you please call to let me
> know in the early afternoon Thursday, or leave me a voice mail message
> (dial 3367...3048)?
>
> See you soon,
>
> Jeff

S 000225

From: toni feder <tfeder@wam.umd.edu>
To: stephen benka <sbenka@aip.acp.org>
Date: 25 Sep 1998 (Fri) 20:06
Subject: Ball lighting/ PU, S&D possibility

Physicists in Spain believe they have an explanation for ball lightning.
The 27 Sept issue of the Journal of Geophysical Research (vol 103, page
23309) has an article on this by Antonio Ranada and colleagues in Madrid.

I think the topic would be a neat physics update story -- or perhaps a
S&D.

--Toni

CC: barbara goss levi <bgl@postoffice.worldnet.att.net...

S 000226

Received: from po4.wam.umd.edu
([128.8.10.166])
by acpgate.acp.org; Fri, 25 Sep 1998 20:06:26 -0400
Received: from rac1.wam.umd.edu ((IDENT root)@rac1.wam.umd.edu [128.8.10.141])
by po4.wam.umd.edu (8.9.0.Beta6/8.9.0.Beta6) with ESMTP id UAA01803;
Fri, 25 Sep 1998 20:06:24 -0400 (EDT)
Received: from rac1.wam.umd.edu ((IDENT sendmail)@localhost [127.0.0.1])
by rac1.wam.umd.edu (8.9.0.Beta6/8.9.0.Beta6) with SMTP id UAA12905;
Fri, 25 Sep 1998 20:06:22 -0400 (EDT)
Received: from localhost by rac1.wam.umd.edu (8.9.0.Beta6/8.9.0.Beta6) with SMTP id
UAA12893;
Fri, 25 Sep 1998 20:06:21 -0400 (EDT)
X-Authentication-Warning: rac1.wam.umd.edu: tfeder owned process doing -bs
Date: Fri, 25 Sep 1998 20:06:21 -0400 (EDT)
From: toni feder <tfeder@wam.umd.edu>
Reply-To: toni feder <tfeder@wam.umd.edu>
To: stephen benka <sbenka@aip.acp.org>
cc: cday@aip.org, barbara goss levi <bgl@postoffice.worldnet.att.net>,
Jean Kumagai <jak@interport.net>, jschmidt@aip.acp.org,
glubkin@aip.acp.org, bschwarz@aip.acp.org
Subject: Ball lighting/ PU, S&D possibility
Message-ID: <Pine.GSO.3.95q.980925200017.11150D-100000@rac1.wam.umd.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

S 000227

From: Barbara Levi <bgl@worldnet.att.net>
To: Steve Benka <sbenka@aip.acp.org>
Date: 28 Sep 1998 (Mon) 10:05
Subject: ball lightning

Toni sent around the following suggestion:

Physicists in Spain believe they have an explanation for ball lightning. The 27 Sept issue of the Journal of Geophysical Research (vol 103, page 23309) has an article on this by Antonio Ranada and colleagues in Madrid.

I think the topic would be a neat physics update story -- or perhaps a S&D.

- - - - -

I have the following response:

Steve:

If you want to use it for PNU, you might check that out with either Phil Krider, U. Arizona, or Earl Williams, MIT. Both do research on Earth's electrical environment.

By the way, what's the word on the article that Davis Sentman is supposed to be writing for us on blue sprites, etc?

B
--

Barbara Goss Levi	805 965 3483 (tel)
Senior Editor	805 963 2574 (fax)
Physics Today	bgl@worldnet.att.net

CC: Jean Kumagi <jak@interport.net>

S 000228

Received: from LOCALNAME ([12.64.40.222]) by mtiwmhc03.worldnet.att.net
(InterMail v03.02.03 118 118 102) with SMTP
id <19980928140937.CFDN6151@LOCALNAME>;
Mon, 28 Sep 1998 14:09:37 +0000
Message-ID: <360F97C7.431F@worldnet.att.net>
Date: Mon, 28 Sep 1998 07:05:59 -0700
From: Barbara Levi <bgl@worldnet.att.net>
Reply-To: bgl@worldnet.att.net
Organization: Physics Today
X-Mailer: Mozilla 3.0C-WorldNet (Win16; I)
MIME-Version: 1.0
To: Steve Benka <sbenka@aip.acp.org>
CC: Jean Kumagi <jak@interport.net>, Chas Day <cday@aip.acp.org>,
Jeff Schmidt <jschmidt@aip.org>, Gloria Lubkin <glubkin@aip.acp.org>,
Bert Schwarzschild <bschwarz@aip.acp.org>,
Richard Fitzgerald <rfitzger@aip.acp.org>
Subject: ball lightning
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

S 000229

From: Ben Stein
To: BSTEIN
Date: 29 Sep 1998 (Tue) 9:37
Subject: PRELIMINARY ANNOUNCEMENT: Biggest Physics Meeting Ever

Preliminary Announcement

APS GALA CENTENNIAL:
THE BIGGEST PHYSICS
MEETING IN HISTORY

For more information contact Phillip Schewe,
301-209-3092, pschewe@aip.acp.org, or
Ben Stein, 301-209-3091, bstein@aip.acp.org,
at the American Institute of Physics

September 29, 1998-----Science writers should mark their calendars now for what will be the grandest physics meeting ever. The American Physical Society (APS) will celebrate its 100th anniversary at a giant meeting in Atlanta, Georgia, March 20-26, 1999. Combining its two annual meetings (normally held in March and April) into one, the APS will regale its members---7,000 to 10,000 will be in attendance---and the public with an unprecedented schedule of speakers and events, which will be summarized here. More information, including abstracts for the great bulk of the sessions (which generally are not directly related to the centennial), will become available as the meeting approaches.

APS
With 40,000 members, the APS is the largest professional society of physicists in the world. It publishes many notable journals, including Physical Review Letters. Its headquarters are at the American Center for Physics in College Park, Maryland. The APS was founded in 1899.

PRESSROOMS: VIRTUAL AND REAL

A pressroom will be operated at the Centennial meeting during March 21-26, 1999. Complimentary press registration will allow reporters to attend all scientific sessions. Press conferences will be held all week on subjects ranging across the whole of physics. The pressroom facilities will include phones, a fax machine, and outlets for laptop computers with modems. In addition, a virtual pressroom, featuring various lay-language papers, press releases, press conference summaries, and other information, will become available during January. In the meantime, one can monitor preparations for the meeting at this website:
www.aps.org/meetings/centennial/index.html

NOBEL LAUREATE GATHERING

Fifty to sixty Nobel laureates will attend a luncheon on March 20. This represents the greatest gathering of Nobelists outside of Sweden, and the largest meeting ever of physics prize-winners anywhere. At the lunch, the laureates will meet with physics teachers from every state in the US and with a large contingent of students from Georgia. Journalists who wish to attend this special event should contact Phillip Schewe well in advance of the meeting. An exhibit of background materials related to the impact of Nobel-Prize research will be mounted at the meeting. Furthermore, many of the laureates will be speaking during the week at sessions.

CENTENNIAL PLENARY TALKS

Scheduled for March 22 and 23: Physics of the Very Big and Very Small, by Steven Weinberg, University of Texas; The Impact of Physics on Medicine and Biology, by Harold Varmus, director of the National Institutes of Health; Physics and the Information Revolution, by Joel Birnbaum, Hewlett-Packard Labs; Physics and Technology, by Mary L. Good of Venture Capital; Physics and Materials, by Richard Smalley, Rice University; and Physics and the American Culture, by Martin Klein of Yale University.

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

National political figures such as the President and Vice President have been invited to speak.

GALA EVENTS

Nobel Laureate luncheon (March 20); reception and banquet for representatives of physical societies from around the world (March 20); formal dinner at the Fernbank

S 000230

Museum (March 21), opening centennial session (March 21); Centennial Welcome Reception for all members (March 22). (Some of these events need reservations.)

SPECIAL CENTENNIAL SYMPOSIA

The following are some of the special symposia (and merely a fraction of the distinguished speakers) scheduled for the week beginning March 21: laser applications (Steven Chu, Anton Zeilinger); atomic clocks (David Wineland); breakthroughs of women in physics (Martha Krebs, head of the DOE office of energy management); chaos (Mitchell Feigenbaum); Einstein's legacy (Robert Kirshner, David Spergel, Joseph Taylor, Kip Thorne); electronic structure and semiconductors (Federico Capasso, Richard Webb, Horst Stormer); physics and national defense (Hans Bethe, Sidney Drell, Charles Townes); the impact of computing on physics (Ernest Moniz); the impact of immigration on US physics (Hans Bethe, Steven Chu, Aron Pinczuk); the impact of lasers (Arthur Schawlow, Nicolaas Bloembergen, William Phillips); industrial physics (William Brinkman, Paul Horn); research performed by minority physicists (Shirley Jackson, Michael Nieto); accelerators and the rise of high energy physics (Wolfgang Panofsky, Steven Weinberg); precision measurements (Gerald Gabrielse, Theodor Hansch, Carl Weiman); science policy (Rep. Vernon Ehlers, Sen. Joseph Lieberman, Neal Lane, Rita Colwell); the search for the ultimate structure of matter (Leon Lederman, T.D. Lee, Burton Richter, Edward Witten); pattern formation (Jerry Gollub, Harry Swinney); developments in instrumentation and measurements (Gordon Moore); unsolved problems in astrophysics (Geoffrey Marcy, Roger Blandford, Michael Turner)

PHYSICS FESTIVAL

Entitled Mastering the Mysteries of the Universe, a series of exhibits and events for the students and the citizens of Atlanta will occur about town during the week of the meeting and the week before. These include physics displays and demonstrations for students (area schools); a colloquy between journalists (including some Pulitzer-Prize winning science writers) and some Nobel-laureate physicists (Emory University); a conference on fractals, art, medicine, and physics (Georgia Tech University); a conference on physics and the mind (Georgia State); an exhibit on black physicists (organized by Clark Atlanta University); and a number of talks on popular subjects (e.g., the physics of Star Trek, the physics of sports, the physics of beer, and the physics of dance) intended for students, teachers, and the public.

21ST-CENTURY DIALOGUES

Several dialogues between distinguished scientists, intended for a large public audience, are currently being scheduled.

PRESS TOUR

Visits to several local university labs.

OTHER EVENTS

One session will be devoted to a panel discussion among presidential science advisors (March 22). A plenary session will concentrate on international physics concerns (March 20). The meeting exhibition will feature, in addition to the usual manufacturers and publishers, displays created by each of the APS units including divisions (e.g., nuclear physics, condensed matter physics, particle physics, etc.), topical groups (e.g., magnetism), forums (e.g., history of physics, education), committees (e.g., the status of women in physics, minorities).

TIMELINE WALL CHART

A timeline of 20th century physics discoveries, consisting of 11 panels (each 40" x 26"), will make its official debut at the meeting. Copies of the timeline will be sent to each high school and college in the country. Journalists attending the meeting will receive a copy.

#

S 000231

From: Steven Benka
To: BGL, TFEDER, JEFF
Date: 29 Sep 1998 (Tue) 11:41
Subject: Update candidates for November

PLEASE RETURN YOUR COMMENTS AND RAKINGS (1-10) TO STEVE
BY **5 PM WEDNESDAY, 30 SEPT.** THANKS.

PHYSICS NEWS UPDATE items for the November PT by Phillip F. Schewe and Ben Stein

QUANTUM ERROR CORRECTION has been experimentally demonstrated for the first time, greatly advancing the promise of carrying out interesting calculations with quantum computers (Updates 310 and 367). Skeptics have maintained that quantum computers would crash before carrying out a useful calculation since the devices rely on fragile, easily corrupted quantum states. Proposed in 1995 and developed unceasingly since then, quantum error correction has been all theory up until now. Aiming radio-frequency pulses at a liquid solution of alanine or trichloroethylene molecules, researchers at Los Alamos and MIT (Raymond Laflamme, 505-665-3394) spread a single bit of quantum information onto three nuclear spins in each molecule. Spreading out the information made it harder to corrupt. The bit of information was a combination or "superposition" of the values 0 and 1, so that it represented a little amount of 0 and a little amount of 1 at the same time. Measuring the spins directly would destroy this superposition and force the bit to become a 0 or a 1. So, the researchers instead "entangled" or interlinked the properties of the three spins. This allowed them to compare the spins to see if any new differences arose between them without learning the bit of information itself. With this technique, they were able to detect and fix errors in a bit's "phase coherence," the phase relationship between the quantum waves corresponding to the 0 and 1 states. (D.G. Cory et al., Phys. Rev. Lett., 7 Sept 1998.) BPS

SILICYNE, A NEW FORM OF SILICON, has been discovered by physicists at Lobachevsky State University in Nizhni Novgorod, Russia. Silicyne is named in analogy with carbyne, a linear polymer consisting only of carbon atoms. (Silicon and carbon, both with four valence electrons, are gregarious cousins in the Periodic Table.) The researchers (Alexander Mashin, mashin@phys.unn.runnet.ru) made thin films (70-500 nm) of the new material by heating or implanting ions in samples of conventional amorphous silicon. The silicon chains, which might contain up to 100 atoms, are believed to be weakly linked (through 4-8-atom bridges) with other chains into a random network of filaments. Carbyne applications might include super-strong threadlike carbon; silicyne is too new for talk yet of applications. (Phokhlov et al., Journal of Experimental and Theoretical Physics (JETP) Letters, 10 May 1998.) PFSCHAOS-BASED COMPUTING, a fundamentally new way to perform computations by exploiting the ubiquitous phenomenon of chaos, has been demonstrated in a simulation by researchers in India and the United States (Bill Ditto, Georgia Tech, 404-894-5216). Compared to digital computation, the chaos-based technique might come closer to how the brain performs computation, and might be superior in certain tasks such as pattern recognition. The computer consists of an interconnected grid of "chaotic elements," systems such as ammonia lasers which can generate unpredictable signals even though their behavior is governed by known mathematical equations. To encode specific numbers into each element, the researchers make specific signal patterns correspond to a number and ask each element to open its connection to the rest of the grid when it generates that pattern. Sending its signal out to the grid can trigger activity in neighboring elements. To carry out specific operations such as addition, the researchers connect the elements in a certain way. An unpredictable but deterministic avalanche of activity among the elements ultimately settles down to produce an unvarying signal that corresponds to the desired answer. Having demonstrated their technique in a computer simulation, the researchers are planning to test this idea with chaotic ammonia lasers and hybrid networks of nerve cells and silicon chips. (Sinha and Ditto, Physical Review Letters, 7 September 1998.) BPS

TRIPLE PHOTOIONIZATION OF LITHIUM, a rare process in which a single photon removes all three electrons simultaneously from nature's third-lightest atom, has been detected for the first time by a Japan-US collaboration (Ivan Sellin, University of Tennessee, 423-974-2738). Studying this process further promises deep insights into the interactions that can occur between a trio of electrons and therefore a more sophisticated understanding of the interplay between charged particles in many

S 000232

environments such as stars. At the Photon Factory in Japan, an intense beam of extreme-ultraviolet (EUV) photons broadsided a beam of lithium atoms; a detector then recorded the rare process by collecting Li^{3+} ions. In the most simplified picture of the process, an EUV photon deposits virtually all its energy into a single electron; the electron immediately shares enough energy with the other two so that they could all escape the Li atom. The three-electron interactions are relatively easy to extract from the data since the photon vanishes after striking the atom, and the heavier lithium nucleus acts merely as a sluggish "spectator." Researchers have observed triple photoionization of heavier atoms, such as neon, but such processes are typically more complicated events involving internal rearrangements of other electrons in the atom. (R. Wehlitz et al., Physical Review Letters, 31 August 1998.) BPS

BROWNIAN MOTION IS CHAOTIC. In case one needed any more persuasion that chaos is all around us, a Brussels-Maryland-Utah collaboration has for the first time demonstrated evidence for chaotic behavior in fluids at the microscopic level. The data consists of repeated viewings of a 2.5-micron particle suspended in water. A plot of the particle's position as a function of time is translated into a form which provides information about how the particle's position at one time correlates with the position at a later time. This analysis proved to bear all the hallmarks of chaotic behavior. The chief symptom of chaos is the tendency for particles that initially follow nearby trajectories to diverge quickly from one another. (P. Gaspard et al., Nature, 27 August 1998.) PFS

NANOTUBE NANOLITHOGRAPHY. Carbon nanotubes have previously been used as tips in atomic force microscopes (AFM) for producing images. But now for the first time nanotube tips have been used as pencils for writing 10-nm-width structures on silicon substrates. Ordinary graphite pencils write by wearing themselves down, but this is not the case with nanotube pencils developed at Stanford by Hongjie Dai (hdai@chem.stanford.edu, 650-725-4518) and his colleagues. The robustness of the nanotube tips permits a writing rate---0.5 mm/sec---five times faster than was possible with older AFM tips. The way the nanotube writes is for an electric field, issuing from the nanotube, to remove hydrogen atoms from a layer of hydrogen atop a silicon base. The exposed silicon surface oxidizes; thus the writing consists of narrow SiO_2 tracks. The Stanford results should help the development of nanofabrication, since tip wear problems have been an obstacle to the use of probe microscopes in lithography and data storage at the nm size scale. (Dai, Franklin, and Han, Applied Physics Letters, 14 September 1998; figure at www.aip.org/physnews/graphics) PFS

KAONS INSIDE SUPERNOVAS. K mesons (kaons) are exotic, short-lived particles of interest not just to high-energy physicists but also to astrophysicists since the behavior of K's inside dense nuclear matter can place severe constraints on the dynamics of supernova explosions and the stability of neutron stars. Recent experiments at the GSI lab in Darmstadt, Germany (Peter Senger, 011-49-6159-712-652, p.senger@gsi.de) have looked for K's in violent collisions between gold nuclei (at a beam energy of 1 GeV/nucleon). In those collisions, the reaction zone is compressed to about 3 times normal nuclear density for a very short time, about 5×10^{-23} sec. Then, this nuclear fireball explodes and the gold nuclei disintegrate. During the hot and dense phase, strange mesons---mostly positively charged kaons---are created. These emerge preferentially out of the plane of the collision; apparently the high density of the reaction zone offers the kaons nowhere to escape but up or down. The pattern of kaon trajectories indicates that the effective mass of the kaon is altered in the extreme nuclear environment, in line with other experiments. These data have been explained by the suggestion that anti-kaons condense at nuclear densities above 3 times normal nuclear matter density. As a consequence, one can predict that a star with a 1.5-2 solar-mass iron core will not subsequently be able to sustain itself as a neutron star following a supernova explosion but would instead collapse into a black hole. (Physical Review Letters, 24 Aug.) PFS

THE MOST ACCURATE MEASUREMENT YET OF THE PLANCK CONSTANT, the number which describes the bundle-like nature of matter and energy at the atomic and subatomic levels, has been carried out by NIST physicists, instantly improving the accuracy of related fundamental constants (such as electron mass, proton mass, and Avogadro's number) and paving the way for a quantum-based definition of mass. Carrying out an experiment

first proposed by Brian Kibble of the National Physical Laboratory in England (011-44-171-594-7845), a NIST group (Edwin Williams, 301-975-4206) determined Planck's constant, otherwise known as h , by using a "moving-coil watt balance," an apparatus with a kilogram mass connected to a metal coil in a magnetic field. Injecting a current through the coil created an upward magnetic force which exactly balanced the downward force of gravity on the mass. In a second step, the group allowed the coil to move downward, measuring its velocity and the voltage it generated. In both steps, the electrical power associated with the mechanical motions of the system contained quantities proportional to Planck's constant, allowing the researchers to extract the value of h while cancelling out factors such as the geometry of the setup. The team calculated a value for h of $6.62606891 \times 10^{-34}$ Joule-seconds, with an uncertainty of 89 parts per billion, two times better than previously published measurements. Their watt-balance setup ultimately promises to lead to a definition of the kilogram based on quantum units, rather than one based on the stalwart physical artifact currently stored in France. (Physical Review Letters, 21 September 1998; figure at www.aip.org/physnews/graphics) BPS

MILLIKELVIN MOLECULES can now be clasped in the same sort of magnetic trap used to chill atoms down to nanokelvins. Molecules are extended objects and not so easily cooled by laser beams, normally the first step in cooling several atom species to ultracold temperatures. Instead, Harvard researchers put calcium-monohydride molecules on the road to refrigeration by mixing them with a buffer gas of helium. Thereafter they were cold enough to load into a system of magnetic fields where the more energetic molecules are allowed to escape. This evaporative cooling brings the molecular temperature to below 1 K, opening up a new regime for collision studies and spectroscopy of cold molecules. (Weinstein et al., Nature, 10 September 1998.) PFS

MILKY WAY IN THE LABORATORY? A plasma with a spiral-shaped pattern of particle density, similar to that of the Milky Way galaxy, has been created stably in the laboratory, supporting the possibility that fluid dynamics effects rather than gravitational ones may be responsible for our home galaxy's structure. Injecting a hot argon plasma (rotating at supersonic speeds) into a cold, stationary argon gas, researchers in Japan (Takashi Ikehata, Ibaraki University, ikehata@ee.ibaraki.ac.jp) observed a spiral-armed structure (with low-density halos of charged particles) that persisted for as long as they kept rotating the plasma. The vortices that typically appear in such hot plasmas became spirals because of the outward "centrifugal" forces introduced by the rotation. Curiously, the spiral structure was not observed to form in the absence of the stationary gas, suggesting that the fluid dynamics interactions between the gas and plasma are central to the spiral formation process. This experiment intensifies the fascinating (and still undecided) question of whether similar interactions occur between hot, bright stars (corresponding to the plasma) and gas clouds (analogous to the stationary gas) to form spiral galaxies. (Ikehata et al., Physical Review Letters, 31 August 1998.) BPS

From: Jeff Schmidt
To: sbenka
Date: 29 Sep 1998 (Tue) 15:16
Subject: Update candidates for November -Reply

Steve --

Here are my rankings of the update candidates.

-- Jeff

2. QUANTUM ERROR CORRECTION
8. SILICYNE, A NEW FORM OF SILICON
1. CHAOS-BASED COMPUTING
6. TRIPLE PHOTOIONIZATION OF LITHIUM
5. BROWNIAN MOTION IS CHAOTIC
7. NANOTUBE NANOLITHOGRAPHY
10. KAONS INSIDE SUPERNOVAS
4. THE MOST ACCURATE MEASUREMENT YET OF THE PLANCK CONSTANT
9. MILLIKELVIN MOLECULES
3. MILKY WAY IN THE LABORATORY?

CC: jschmidt

S 000235

From: toni feder <tfeder@wam.umd.edu>
To: barbara goss levi <bgl@postoffice.worldnet.att.net...>
Date: 3 Aug 1998 (Mon) 0:32
Subject: work/vacation schedule/contact info

Hi all,

I will be away on a combination work/vacation trip from 6 August through 8 September. The work part of my trip will include 16-23 Aug, during which I will interview physicists in former East Germany; and from 25-29 Aug, I will be in Grenoble, France, at a condensed matter physics conference held jointly by the French and European Physical Societies. Plans to interview others (at CERN and in Germany) are still in the works.

From 7 Aug-15 Aug I can be reached at +49 89 22 54 57; and I will be able to receive faxes (with my name clearly noted) at: +49-89-549-057-20.

I will send additional contact information as soon as I can. I will read my e-mail (though probably not every day).

Toni

S 000236

Received: from po3.wam.umd.edu
([128.8.10.165])
by acpgate.acp.org; Mon, 03 Aug 1998 00:32:54 -0400
Received: from rac8.wam.umd.edu ((IDENT root)@rac8.wam.umd.edu [128.8.10.148])
by po3.wam.umd.edu (8.9.0.Beta6/8.9.0.Beta6) with ESMTP id AAA15647;
Mon, 3 Aug 1998 00:32:51 -0400 (EDT)
Received: from rac8.wam.umd.edu ((IDENT sendmail)@localhost [127.0.0.1])
by rac8.wam.umd.edu (8.9.0.Beta6/8.9.0.Beta6) with ESMTP id AAA00099;
Mon, 3 Aug 1998 00:32:49 -0400 (EDT)
Received: from localhost by rac8.wam.umd.edu (8.9.0.Beta6/8.9.0.Beta6) with SMTP id
AAA00094;
Mon, 3 Aug 1998 00:32:47 -0400 (EDT)
X-Authentication-Warning: rac8.wam.umd.edu: tfeder owned process doing -bs
Date: Mon, 3 Aug 1998 00:32:47 -0400 (EDT)
From: toni feder <tfeder@wam.umd.edu>
To: barbara goss levi <bgl@postoffice.worldnet.att.net>, bschwarz@aip.acp.org,
charris@aip.acp.org, eplotkin@aip.acp.org, goodwin@aip.acp.org,
jschmidt@aip.acp.org, paul elliott <pelliot@aip.acp.org>,
rita wehrenberg <rwehrenb@aip.acp.org>,
stephen benka <sbenka@aip.acp.org>, wkornber@aip.acp.org, cday@aip.org,
gbl2@aip.org, jbarker@aip.org, Jean Kumagai <jak@interport.net>,
tgary@aip.org, squarles@aip.acp.org
Subject: work/vacation schedule/contact info
Message-ID: <Pine.GSO.3.95q.980803003135.18B-100000@rac8.wam.umd.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

S 000237

From: Jeff Schmidt
To: i:sff.net:gpc, i:interport.net:jak, PELLIOT, i:wam...
Date: 30 Jul 1998 (Thu) 18:53
Subject: Forwarded: What's Wrong With NYT Science reporting

Hi Graham, Jean, Paul and Toni,

I thought you would be interested in this message that appeared on the FASTnet e-mail list (FASTnet@igc.apc.org).

Jeff

Albert Henderson wrote:

>
> My reading of the NYT slant is that (A) the science community
> fears that bad news will chill prospects for funding and (B)
> the Times wants to keep its sources hot. Such journalism
> is an extension of the governmental process, spinning rather
> than objective reporting.
>

As a communications researcher and a former science/technology journalist, I think this hits the nail on the head. There is one more thing, though -- the reporter is really just filling a slot already set up by the media/government/business elites. The NYT, especially, has a story it wants to tell, and the reporters who help tell it the best get the top jobs. This story has to do with Yankee ingenuity, living in the greatest country of them all, and validating the social order.

A couple of years ago I analyzed NYT stories on genetics and found the heds and graphics told one story ("gene for criminality found") while the stories, read critically, told quite another! I have freelanced to the NYT and they have spun my stuff, too.

I think most reporters know all of this, but they like to think that at least they make the effort to protect *some* of the truth, which is all they can do without getting bounced. The suppression of information in the news biz is phenomenal.

Best,
Pat Radin
PhC, University of Washington School of Communications
"P. Radin" <radin@u.washington.edu>

CC: JSCHMIDT

S 000238

From - Wed Sep 23 22:18:48 1998
Received: from wilson.acpub.duke.edu (wilson.acpub.duke.edu [152.3.233.69])
by po2.wam.umd.edu (8.9.0.Beta6/8.9.0.Beta6) with ESMTTP id
VAA16594
for <jeff@wam.umd.edu>; Wed, 23 Sep 1998 21:11:50 -0400 (EDT)
Received: from wam.umd.edu (async251-36.async.duke.edu [152.3.251.36])
by wilson.acpub.duke.edu (8.8.5/Duke-4.6.0) with ESMTTP id
VAA26684;
Wed, 23 Sep 1998 21:11:47 -0400 (EDT)
Message-ID: <36099CA8.BD86507E@wam.umd.edu>
Date: Wed, 23 Sep 1998 21:13:16 -0400
From: Toni Feder <tfeder@wam.umd.edu>
Reply-To: tfeder@wam.umd.edu
Organization: Physics Today
X-Mailer: Mozilla 4.04 (Macintosh; I; PPC)
MIME-Version: 1.0
To: jeff@wam.umd.edu
Subject: hi
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii; x-mac-type="54455854"; x-mac-
creator="4D4F5353"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Status: O
X-Mozilla-Status: 0001
Content-Length: 517

HI Jeff,

thanks for that note in favor of a magnets article -- i hope it gets
further support, and someone to pursue it. No way do I have time. at
the moment i'm feeling overwhelmed-- i have one of the news stories that
has no clear hook or seams. it's on data rights, and should be good,
but the idea of getting it done on time is still overwhelming right
now.

I also have read (most) of the article from The Natoin that you sent,
and may finish it later tonight. It's good.

back to work,
Toni

S 000239

Physics Today Memo

To: PT Editors
From: Steve Benka
Subject: Physics in Developing Countries

September 23, 1998

Enclosed are five pages of "Some Reflections" for Physics Today's coverage of the very broad topic of "Physics in Developing Countries." It was written by Lennart Hasselgren, director of the International Program in the Physical Sciences (IPPS) at Uppsala University in Sweden, in response to an email message from me (attached).

Hasselgren and I have traded emails since then, culminating with these "reflections." I also have some backup materials, including the texts of two talks he gave and the "IPPS research catalogue 1997" that he refers to. In all of these materials, I can't find a definition of the "sandwich" programs he mentions for MS and PhD students, but I gather that these are designed to strengthen local graduate programs, and that the students do as much work as possible at their home institutions.

I'd like to hear your thoughts on how we should proceed with this. Let's be prepared to discuss it at our next articles meeting, scheduled for Thursday, 1 October, at 2pm.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Steve", with a horizontal line extending to the left.

S 000240

From: Stephen Benka
To: ACPGate("lennart.hasselgren@isp.uu.se")
Date: 7/25/98 4:23pm
Subject: Advice for Physics Today

Dear Professor Hasselgren,

We at Physics Today are interested in covering physics in developing countries. Mghendi Mwamburi, who I met at a UNESCO symposium last May, has suggested that I seek your advice.

I recognize the impossibility of any individual attempting to speak on behalf of all developing countries, so one area in which I want advice is how Physics Today might best approach the topic --- country by country? through news stories in the magazine? through opinion pieces? through one or more feature articles?

Several issues seem relevant to the topic, including:

- (i) the motivation for pursuing physics in developing countries;
- (ii) the resourcefulness of the physicists;
- (iii) the local (global) relevance of their research;
- (iv) how science is organized in developing countries;
- (v) the (ir)relevance of so-called 'solutions' to local problems from developed countries;
- (vi) the shortage of resources, of infrastructure --- not just money and lab equipment but also journal subscriptions, telecommunications, computers, and so on;
- (vii) brain-drain, in which the most promising students leave for their higher education and only some ultimately return;
- (viii) a lack of local industrial jobs.

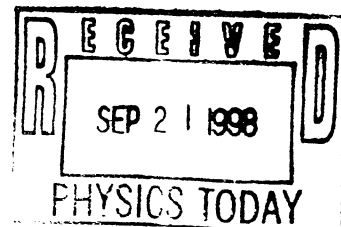
I'm sure there are others.

I would greatly like to hear your thoughts on how best Physics Today might tackle the subject, either all at once or over time. Who else might you suggest I talk with, for further advice?

Thank you for your consideration, and give my regards to Mghendi.

Sincerely,
Stephen G. Benka, Editor, Physics Today

S 000241



PHYSICS TODAY

Some reflections

I have given my view on some matters in recent talks in Abuja and Durban and will not repeat this here. Below, I have briefly summarized the present situation as I look upon it. The complexity calls for careful analysis in order to outline a meaningful presentation that by necessity must be made over a certain period of time and through a number of different articles. One possibility could be

- Discuss why science, and above all physics, should be supported in developing countries. Personally I do not believe that it is the results per se that is important but
 - the coupling between research and a good higher education
 - the need to be a part of the scientific community in order to be able to get access to scientific information
 - the need to have good scientists in developing countries in order to direct more interest and funding to solve problems of a more direct relevance to developing countries
 - the need to have people with knowledge to make use of already existing information.
- Discuss the need to teach science with the aim to get the students to understand not to memorize. Point at the importance to improve on the situation already at primary and secondary school levels and discuss how the universities can be involved.
- Present the situation for physics higher education and research. This must be done with care and by selecting some countries and in some cases whole regions. Examples are
 - Latin America. Countries like Argentina, Brazil, Chile and Mexico should be treated differently than for example Bolivia, Ecuador and Peru where physics is just in the starting phase and differently from Colombia, Venezuela and Costa Rica that are somewhere in between.
 - Africa. South Africa must be treated separately and maybe also Nigeria while Eastern and Southern Africa can be grouped together as well as Western and Central Africa, and Northern Africa respectively.
 - Asia. Rather similar situation to Latin America with the big countries China, India and maybe Pakistan in one group, the NIC countries in another, countries like Thailand, Malaysia etc with local grants available but lack of scientists in a third, and in a fourth group countries like Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Nepal,...
- Give presentations of active research groups both of those in the very frontier of physics, and of "young" groups with work of a good international standard. Examples of the last category are
 - Latin America. The thin films research group at Dept. of Physics, Univ. Nac. de Ingenieria, Lima Peru. IPPS research catalogue 1997, page 217.

- Africa. The thin films/solar energy materials research group at Dept. of Physics, Univ. of Dar es Salaam, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania now serving as a regional resource group. IPPS research catalogue 1997, page 136.
- Asia. The condensed matter physics group at Dept. of Physics, Univ. of Peradeniya, Peradeniya, Sri Lanka. IPPS research catalogue 1997, page 52.
- Present the policy and programs of some active organizations involved in support of physics in developing countries. There are mainly three such organizations i.e. ICTP, Trieste, Italy; IITAP, Iowa State Univ., Ames, Iowa, USA; IPPS, Uppsala University, Uppsala, Sweden.
- Present the views of some bigger organization, positive towards the support of basic sciences, like Sida/SAREC, Sweden.

I strongly feel that the articles should be written mainly by physicists from developing countries, and I have a number of proposals for authors and suggestions for titles. Other articles could very well be "editorial", interviews etc. The important thing must be that physics in developing countries is made visible and that what is being presented not only give information but also stimulates to a debate and attracts the interest of especially the big donor organizations and politicians and policy makers in the developing countries themselves.

BRIEF SUMMARY ON THE SITUATION FOR PHYSICS ACCORDING TO MY EXPERIENCES

LATIN AMERICA

Very diverse. Huge spread in degree of sophistication.

Group 1: Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Mexico

Infrastructure at quite good level, some activities in the very frontier of physics, even if funding of R&D has decreased during the last years (except maybe for Chile). Some environments in for example Argentina have big difficulties. However, within each individual country, there could be big differences. Brazil is one example, where the funding from the states is as important as the federal funding. Thus the state of Sao Paulo has well developed activities, while states in the northern part for example seems to be less developed.

This group of countries can carry on PhD programs of good international standard and they have infrastructure enough for that.

Type of meaningful cooperation: For this group of countries, cooperation with exchange of scientists, fellowships etc. could be very meaningful. Local infrastructure should be possible to cover with local funds.

Group 2: Colombia, Venezuela, Costa Rica.

I have never been to Venezuela, but I guess Venezuela belongs to this group, that I would like to characterize as a group still in need of more structured co-operation. Thus PhD sandwich programs are a must in most cases in order to keep the standard up. There exist research teams of a good international standard, but they have, in most cases, difficulties in getting equipment and in keeping international cooperation working without support from outside.

Type of meaningful co-operation: Fellowships coupled to certain activities to strengthen the local infrastructure.

Group 3: Bolivia, Ecuador, Peru, Uruguay,.....?

In this group of countries, physics is very poorly developed. Thus Ecuador has just started to develop research activities, and Peru has just a few groups engaged in experimental work. In Peru, the first PhD to get his degree from a university in Peru, got his degree in 1991 under a sandwich program. Since then three more people have graduated within the same research group. In Ecuador, there has so far been no PhD graduate in physics. For physics in Ecuador and Peru, see for example the IPPS project catalogue.

Meaningful co-operation: This group of countries is in the capacity building phase. Co-operation must be with long term objectives and focus on the building up of local infrastructure. Fellowships alone are thus of limited values.

AFRICA

With the exception of South Africa (and maybe Nigeria even if the economical situation is very difficult), countries in Africa South of the Sahara are in a capacity building phase, while the North African countries are somewhat better off. This means by necessity the need for long term co-operation emphasizing the strengthening of the local infrastructure. Fellowships are thus not enough but may in fact contribute to the brain drain in a very severe way.

It seems to me that the region South of Sahara except for Nigeria and South Africa can be treated as a rather homogeneous region with respect to the situation for science and the same holds for the North African countries.

Eastern and Southern Africa: Regarding detailed updated information, we are just on the way to finish a new research catalogue for the countries Sudan, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Malawi, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Botswana, Mocambique, Madagascar and Swaziland. Most conclusions made from the first catalogue are still valid (refer to talk in Abuja and Durban). It must be noted that despite the difficult situation, there are possibilities to build research activities up of good international standard. Regional co-operation and planning is most essential. Note for example the group on "thin films/solar energy materials" in Dar es Salaam that now functions as a "resource group" taking MSc and PhD students from neighboring countries. These resources must be identified and nurtured. Note also the potential that is there but which can not develop due to lack of funding. Lack of local funds are typical and most commonly, research councils only have funds to cover their own administration. We estimate, that less than 0.1% of the BNP goes into R&D. However, even if that amount would increase to as much as 1% of the BNP, the total amount of money available would be very limited calling for careful local and regional planning. This also means that for the foreseeable future, R&D must also be funded from the outside.

In most cases a sandwich modality is needed in order for PhD programs to be of a quality high enough. Any assistance must focus on the strengthening of the local infrastructure and fellowships alone have a limited value. The risk for drainage of the best young scientists is very high, if they have nothing to return to.

South Africa. There are definitely research activities in the forefront. A research catalogue is under preparation. South Africa can benefit very much from exchange programs. South Africa is also interesting as a resource for regional co-operation even if, according to my view, domestic problems are underestimated and therefore the potential for South Africa to function as a "motor" is overestimated.

Western and Central Africa: Together with European Physical Society, we are in the process to prepare a research catalogue similar to the one available for Eastern and Southern Africa. In comparison to that region, physics is somewhat more "developed" in Western and Southern Africa. However, for co-operation, there is also in this case important to focus on the local infrastructure.

Northern Africa. Here we find more advanced research activities than in Africa South of the Sahara. A research catalogue is under preparation-

ASIA

As for Latin America, the situation for science is very diverse. **The NIC countries** Singapore, South-Korea and Taiwan have, as we are well aware of, a certain base to continue to build on. The huge countries **Pakistan, India, China** must also be treated separately. All of them have centres of excellence but at the same time state universities with rather small economical means. **Vietnam** is a very interesting country where I think science will develop very quickly in the near future. **Bangladesh** on the other hand have a long tradition in physics (Bose) but the difficult economical situation put severe limitations. Research in physics in **Sri Lanka** started in reality only about 10-12 years back but already there are some strong groups formed. **Thailand** had/has the economical resources but lack scientists and the same is true for **Malaysia, Indonesia** and the **Philippines**. In **Nepal** is physics research more or less zero.

S 000246

From: Warren Kornberg
To: CDAY, PELLLOT, apsdpost.GOODWIN, ladbury, i:interp...
Date: 29 Sep 1998 (Tue) 11:51
Subject: thirdworld memo -Forwarded

fyi

S 000247

From: Warren Kornberg
To: sbenka
Date: 25 Sep 1998 (Fri) 12:21
Subject: thirdworld memo

Steve:

I've given some thought to your thirdworld coverage memo. The results are attached.
w

S 000248

From the tenor of your opening statement to Hasselgren and to us, it appears that the decision has been made to pursue coverage of the Third World. This wipes out my initial notion that, as laudable as attention to those countries might be, it would seem that that coverage should follow--or at least track with--the far less arcane and difficult coverage of physics in the rest of the developed world, which we don't do either. Developing techniques to stimulate foreign coverage where we know good physics is going on and good establishments exist would enable us more easily to set a pattern for coverage that could then be applied elsewhere with far less wheel-spinning and uncertainty.

The problems are twofold: what to cover and how to cover it, and they need to be addressed separately.

A problem I have with Hasselgren is that, although he is a goldmine of information and probably a route to more, he appears more interested in promoting advance in research and education in these countries than we. At least, if we have such motives, they ought to be by far secondary to producing quality information on what actually goes on for the readers of our magazine.

Using Hasselgren as a first cut, he has identified the countries on the various 'southern' continents where some effort might be fruitfully applied: countries where physics is being done rather than where it might be done if. . . This could certainly be built upon from here by securing whatever descriptive material his group has developed, as well as consulting with the International Directorate of the National Science Foundation (which used to have some significant cooperative programs going with worthy overseas laboratories and investigators), the international desk at the National Academy of Sciences, the science attaches here in the embassies of the countries you single out, the science adviser's office at State, the American science attaches in whatever overseas embassy posts that have them, as well as foreign authors of journal articles and scientists from any number of countries working in laboratories and universities here--defectors and braindrainers though they may be, they know what they left behind and could well be a goldmine.. AIP and APS's international divisions might turn up some mines of information. As I think about it, NSF looks better and better as a place to thrash around. The program directors and division heads get paid for knowing what's going on in the world, or they know who knows.

All of this could conceivably turn up a couple of foci in various places--probably principally those Hasselgren mentioned in his more promising categories. Then it becomes a question of how to get at it. How to get at the harder stuff would reveal itself as we learned the ropes.

I would caution against going for articles--principally pieces of whose substance you could have only third-hand knowledge at best, and by authors you know no better and whose output would be a pig in a poke.

Rather, I think, setting up an occasional sub-department in Search or Community (or both) where you could run an occasional 'Letter From would give you the option of building further or backing off without having committed yourself to the point of embarrassment. They could also be intermittent. These could be news/descriptive type pieces dealing with either physics, facilities or policy and would, as they accumulated, give you a feel for those subjects from place to place that you might want to explore further--either with deeper Search pieces of, if you feel sure of your footing, an article.

Question: How in hell to set up such a flow of information? Travel from here to do the pieces, even if the languages were known, is of course out of the question. That leaves only stringers and --worse--stringers whom you could train and on whom you could rely. That could put you in a position, in the beginning, of accepting, commissioning and even paying for pieces you are unable to print. But since both you and the stringers, whatever their science and/or journalism backgrounds will be feeling your way, that, I think, is inevitable. Further, where coverage is concerned in some of the parts of the world in which you have aspirations, their political pressure writers and/or scientists are under would have to be considered, and some way of screening pieces for political minefields might be almost a necessity.

I can't, of course, come up off the top of my head with science reporters anywhere that we're talking about for your consideration. But there may be some places to start:

Caution: these are all old contacts. I think I'd know if they were dead or otherwise gone, but can't vouch for much beyond.

Jim Cornell at the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory [617-495-7461; cornell@cfa.harvard.edu] is and has been for years the president and chief functionary of the International Association of Science Writers. Howard Lewis, who used to do PIO for the National Academy here, (301-229-6770; 71544,3464@compuserve.com (when I was last in touch)) serves as Cornell's secretary treasurer. Either could forward a list of their members and either (or perhaps better both) should be in a position to discuss the qualifications of many of the people in terms of the criteria you have.) In addition, Ben Patrusky, who is execdir of the Council for The Advancement of Science Writing (212-254-8685; 73561,1124@compuserve.com when I last tried) has been running for CASW an annual exposure of American science writers to stories and issues in various parts of Africa. They probably focused more on biology, health and agriculture than on Physics, but Ben is a fantastic reporter: anything he's been exposed to he remembers, and he might also be well worth talking to. Less focused: Saul Friedman (presshound@aol.com) used to be a political reporter for Knight Ridder and Newsday is currently and for the next few months on a fellowship in South Africa teaching journalistic principles and techniques. I think it's his third tour. He doesn't know science, but he will have regular contacts with prominent and senior South African journalists of many (but probably mostly political) stripes who might very well have some leads, if you can, working through Friedman, get the questions posed appropriately.

There's also Chuck (Dr. Charles Weiss (again, I'm going back in time) who was a biologist, reported for me from Africa when I was Science News, and went on to become science adviser to the World Bank under McNamara and became a consultant thereafter. Don't know for sure what he knows, but If you were doing what you're contemplating, I'd sure discuss it with him (when I knew him five years ago: 301-229-0159 (res); 301-913-9755 (off)). His successor at the World Bank might also work.

I believe such a project could not be done with the staff you have, but would require a savvy manager who would probably need a travel budget--and not just to run run it, but to set it up, too.

It all looks like a lot of preliminary work. But I really believe it would pay off in the end.

W

S 000250

From: Warren Kornberg
To: CDAY, SBENKA, PELLLOT, apsdpost.GOODWIN, ladbury, ...
Date: 1 Oct 1998 (Thu) 13:20
Subject: thirdworld revisited

My original on this was not meant either to endorse or not to endorse, but simply to make suggestions if it is decided that resources exist to pursue overseas physics--third world or no. This is just to convey--also without prejudice--a response from Ray Ladbury in advance of today's meeting.
w

S 000251

From: <rlladbury@mail.hac.com>
To: ACP.AIP(WKORNBUR)
Date: 10/1/98 12:42pm
Subject: Re[2]: thirdworld memo -Forwarded -Reply

Hi Warren,

Let me draft a slightly more considered response for general distribution. I actually lived in a developing country AFTER I got my Ph.D., and most of the time, I can remember thinking how little of my experience and training could be applied. Even the teaching methods were different. As I say, in some ways, even grouping countries together into a "third world" is misleading. Take the Indian Subcontinent (please): India is, in the cities, anyway, mostly a developed nation. They produce a large number of highly educated specialists in a broad range of fields. Some pretty decent research is going on there; there are decent communications facilities (including internet), and the high-tech sector, until recently, was growing rapidly. Pakistan is emerging into the high-tech sector, but is hampered by the military emphasis of its scientific effort (and government for that matter). Sri Lanka has one of the highest literacy rates in the world, has achieved zero population growth, and has had a GNP growth rate of ~6% per year, despite a fratricidal civil war costing upwards of \$1 billion per year. Yet there is almost no physics being done there! (Note: One possible exception might be in the heat treatment of sapphires and other gemstones. There is some good chemical physics here, and it might make an interesting topic for a short story. I'll check with contacts on the island--the internet's here, too.) Nepal, Bangladesh, Bhutan...? For get it. Science and Nature, as well as The Scientist, have done some things like this, but mostly the emphasis has been on educating Western scientists, rather than highlighting world-class research. One reason for this is that if there is a bright, young scientist in a developing country, he either gets lost in the shuffle (especially if he/she is the wrong sex, ethnic group, religion, etc.), or he/she is off to Europe or the US, where it is possible to actually do world-class research. This is the main complaint I've heard from senior researchers in a variety of countries (Brazil, India...). This pool of ex-pat talent might be a decent place to start looking for info on what's going on in developing countries. In fact, a piece on how some of these people came to the US would be enlightening for the PT audience.

I'm afraid I agree with Warren--the main problem here is resources. PT has had a hard time even covering developments in Japan, China and Eastern Europe. Now, imagine trying to cover what's going on in places where communications are poor, supplies unavailable and scientific literacy lacking altogether. It's a tough order for any publication. The possibility of AIP kicking in for junkets for the staff is, I would guess, remote.

I would end by saying that I applaud the sentiment, and I'd do anything I could do to help things out. Most scientists in third-world countries are verging on despair. They crave some wider recognition (especially true in Latin America). The last thing they need is an "affirmative action" type of program that will reinforce already entrenched impressions among many in the physics community that nothing of value is going on in these countries. Steve has a vote of confidence from me, in that he has travelled in some developing countries, and know physicists from these regions. I think he will be sensitive to the issues peculiar to these regions. I am not as confident that other members of the physics community (though they may have the best of intentions) will be as sensitive. Nor am I at all confident that AIP will be able to provide the resources to enable all of you to translate the sensitivity of the PT staff into a successful and compelling series of articles/features. This is a little more considered, so feel free to share it with anyone you think might be interested.

Reply Separator

S 000252

From: Paul Elliott (Paul Elliot)
To: ACP.AIP(BSCHWARZ, JSCHMIDT), ACPgate("jak@interpor...
Date: 29 Sep 1998 (Tue) 23:24
Subject: Style committee -Reply

According to my notes for the February 17 staff meeting, the style committee was set up to identify and examine existing style guides, and to determine their scope and how well each would tie in with PT's existing style.

Are we all going to be ready to discuss that subject in a conference call on October 19 or 20? If so, fine. If not, I suggest we pick another date--and notify CH/SB accordingly.

By the way, I recommend that we discount Irwin's February 17 recommendation that PT adhere to the Washington Post style guide--and his concomitant condemnation of the Chicago Manual of Style. It's not that I wish to challenge Irwin's judgment in such matters, but simply that rather than update its 1989 style guide, the Post has abandoned the printed version in favor of an inhouse on-line guide, which is not ours to use unless the Post decides to buy PT.

Paul

>>> "Jean A. Kumagai" <jak@interport.net> 09/23/98 09:27am >>>
The minutes from the last staff meeting indicate that we're supposed to meet before the next staff meeting, on October 20. I'm planning to be away Oct 1-17, so I suggest that we have a conference call sometime on October 19 or on the morning of the 20th.

--Jean

S 000253

From: Paul Elliott (Paul Elliot)
To: jschmidt
Date: 22 Sep 1998 (Tue) 18:46
Subject: Vogel article ready -Reply -Reply -Reply

Jeff,

Is this intended to be your review of the Runge letter, or merely an interim comment? On the dual chance that it's one or the other and that you'll be in on Thursday (the day on which I'd like to have the review in hand), I have left the Runge folder on your desk.

Paul

>>> Jeff Schmidt 09/18/98 11:29pm >>>

Thanks for the Vogel receipt acknowledgment and schedule. I will plan accordingly. Enjoy.

I have finished looking over the Runge material. It is what we call "original research," and so is not suitable for publication in Physics Today. I suggest that we tell Runge that we journalists at Physics Today are not in a position to evaluate his idea and that he might talk to a quantum mechanics teacher in a physics department at a nearby university. My own guess is that Runge is wrong.

Jeff

S 000254

From: Jeff Schmidt
To: pelliot
Date: 22 Sep 1998 (Tue) 20:30
Subject: Vogel article ready -Reply -Reply -Reply -Reply

Paul,

Yes, what I sent you was indeed my review of the Runge grunge. There isn't much more to be said about what he wrote -- it's a clear reject. If you would like me to do anything more on the Runge case, just let me know and I'll do my best.

Jeff

PS -- The whereabouts sheet lists you working at home on Thursday; is that correct?

CC: jschmidt

S 000255

From: Jeff Schmidt
To: cday
Date: 21 Sep 1998 (Mon) 14:31
Subject: Historical Information -Forwarded -Reply

Hi Chas --

I'm afraid that I don't recall the article that the writer is asking about. I vaguely remember seeing something about South Africa, in the context of neutrinos, I think. In the 1950s, Physics Today did, indeed, publish articles of the type that the writer asks about -- travel reports -- but I don't remember seeing this one.

-- Jeff

CC: jschmidt

S 000256

From: PTWWW
To: jschmidt
Date: 17 Sep 1998 (Thu) 12:32
Subject: Historical Information -Forwarded

Hello Jeff,

The attached e-mail, which I received via PT's Web site, contains a request for info on an article that appeared in PT in the 1950s.

If you can remember seeing the article when you went through the 1950s PTs for the May issue, please reply directly to Prof Austin. If you can't remember it, please let me know.

Chas

S 000257

From: "Dr. B A Austin" <eel04@liverpool.ac.uk>
To: ACP.AIP(ptwww)
Date: 16 Sep 1998 (Wed) 10:46
Subject: Historical Information

Dr B.A.Austin
Department of Electrical Engineering & Electronics
University of Liverpool
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Fax: +44 151 794 4540
email: eel04@liv.ac.uk

I hope you can help me.

I am trying to trace an article that appeared in Physics Today over forty years ago but unfortunately the only reference details I have are rather sketchy. The piece in question was written by Professor S.A.Korff of NY University, I believe, on the subject of his visit to the Bernard Price Institute of Geophysical Research at the University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa in 1954. Apparently the article appeared but I have no title nor even the date and all I can guess is that it would have been late-1954 or 1955.

If you are able to trace it I shall be particularly grateful because I am writing the biography of the founder of that Research Institute and this reference may prove most useful.

Many thanks.

Brian Austin.

S 000258

From: Stephen Benka
To: CDAY, PELLLOT, TFEDER, apsdpost.GOODWIN, WKORNER,...
Date: 1 Sep 1998 (Tue) 22:06
Subject: Articles meeting addendum

In summarizing today's meeting, I neglected to mention one of the action items: All editors should review (and use) the 2-page "Guide for Metric Practice" in our Buyers' Guide. [That's the little article that says Angstroms are ok.]

--Steve

S 000259

From: Paul Elliott (Paul Elliot)
To: JBARKER, SBENKA, JKUMAGAI, WKORNBER, TFEDER, BSCHW...
Date: 3 Sep 1998 (Thu) 15:57
Subject: My Schedule

Friday, September 4 will be a non-PT day for me. My next PT day will be Tuesday, September 8.

If you want my copyediting services next week for the October issue, you can leave me voice-mail message (x3041) saying what you've got and I'll get and when you'd like it back (I'll call in for messages occasionally)--and you can leave the copy on the chair in the office I use.

Paul

CC: cday, tgary

S 000260

Received: from plano.sff.net (plano.greyware.com [207.55.146.51])
by pol.wam.umd.edu (8.9.0.Beta6/8.9.0.Beta6) with SMTP id
WAA26376
for <jeff@wam.umd.edu>; Thu, 27 Aug 1998 22:47:01 -0400 (EDT)
Received: from GPC (unverified [199.174.158.235]) by plano.sff.net
(EMWAC SMTPRS 0.83) with SMTP id <B0000738639@plano.sff.net>;
Thu, 27 Aug 1998 21:46:12 -0500
Message-Id: <1.5.4.16.19980828024754.3e87e866@pop.sff.net>
X-Sender: gpc@pop.sff.net
X-Mailer: Windows Eudora Light Version 1.5.4 (16)
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Date: Thu, 27 Aug 1998 22:47:54 -0400
To: jak@interport.net, jeff@wam.umd.edu, lugenbold@juno.com
From: "Graham P. Collins" <gpc@sff.net>
Subject: Lies, lies, lies
Status:
X-Mozilla-Status: 0001
Content-Length: 1375

I can't imagine why I thought to forward this to you three....

Original TruthSeeker Sculpture
List price: \$149
The Sharper Image
<http://www.sharperimage.com/>
Catalog #SI515

800/3

44-4444

Lies, lies, and lies

The only thing worse than losing information to a system crash or thief is getting misinformation in the first place. While people can disguise their facial gestures, fake their body language, and alter their words, only the coolest sociopaths with no guilt can tell a lie without having their tone of voice waver.

The TruthSeeker is actually a voice analysis tool, disguised as a harmless lighted sculpture. Basically, the device picks up very high, inaudible frequencies in people's voices, then analyzes this information to decide whether they're under a lot of stress. Since stress is a somewhat reliable indicator of lying, the TruthSeeker might be able to weed out misinformation right as it spews from the proverbial horse's mouth.

It's certainly not 100 percent accurate--it's designed more for novelty than perfection--but it's fun to put that salesperson on speakerphone then watch the red lights go off as the conversation switches from golf to pricing information. The TruthSeeker is a fun toy, well worth the \$150 as a conversation piece alone.

S 000261

From: Charles Day
To: ACP.AIP(JSCHMIDT), TGARY
Date: 24 Aug 1998 (Mon) 16:29
Subject: Blurbs -Reply

Hello Tonya,

I sent the Grant blurb to Abby on 4 August. You can find it in physics\blurbs\grant.wp6.

Chas

CC: ACP.AIP(AKLAR),

S 000262

From: Tonya Gary
To: PT Staff
Date: 26 Aug 1998 (Wed) 11:18
Subject: Attendance Sheets

Attendance sheets for August have been put into your mailboxes. Please get them back to me by Friday. Also, you should take the time to review your vacation, sick, bonus, comp time, etc. as Human Resources has switched over to a new tracking system and human error is always possible.

Thanks.

S 000263

From: Jeff Schmidt
To: SBENKA
Date: 29 Aug 1998 (Sat) 16:22
Subject: Physics Update

Steve --

Here are my rankings of the update candidates.

-- Jeff

1. MEASURING GRAVITY GRADIENTS WITH ATOM INTERFEROMETRY
6. A WATER SOFTENER FOR RADIOACTIVE WASTE
9. ULTRASMALL ANGLE X-RAY SCATTERING
5. GROUP DECISIONS CAN BE MATHEMATICALLY UNPREDICTABLE
8. THE FIRST OBSERVATION OF LASER WAKEFIELD ACCELERATION
2. BLACK HOLES CANNOT SERVE AS PORTALS TO OTHER UNIVERSES
7. TURBULENCE IN SOAP FILMS
3. ELECTRIC NOISE CAN INCREASE HUMAN TACTILE SENSATION
4. A TORQUE WRENCH FOR DNA

CC: JSCHMIDT

S 000264

From: Charles Day
To: ACP.AIP(AKLAR, BLEVI, BSCHWARZ, EPLOTKIN, GLUBKIN,...)
Date: 18 Aug 1998 (Tue) 11:21
Subject: Tex and Latex processor

Hello all,

Bert and I think it'd be worthwhile for PT to buy software to typeset TeX and LaTeX files. We occasionally receive articles and obits written in TeX; preprints are often made available in TeX.

In case you didn't know, TeX and its simpler cousin LaTeX are typesetting languages that are used extensively in the physics and astrophysics communities. They work like HTML and Ventura in that text is tagged with commands. And like HTML and Ventura, TeX requires software to interpret the commands and produce a typeset document - usually in the form of a printable PostScript file.

TeX was originally written for mainframe computers, but PC and Mac versions of the interpretation software exist. In my old job, I used a Mac program called Textures.

Chas

S 000265

From: Jeff Schmidt
To: SBENKA
Date: 13 Aug 1998 (Thu) 12:20
Subject: Contents pages

Steve --

I have read the contents pages and they look OK.

-- Jeff

CC: JSCHMIDT

S 000266

From: Jeff Schmidt
To: TGARY
Date: 13 Aug 1998 (Thu) 11:14
Subject: Whereabouts chart -Reply -Reply

Yes, I can read the chart, proper format and all.

Jeff

CC: jschmidt

S 000267

Received: from plano.sff.net (plano.greyware.com [207.55.146.51])
by pol.wam.umd.edu (8.9.0.Beta6/8.9.0.Beta6) with SMTP id
AAA23545;

Thu, 30 Jul 1998 00:04:44 -0400 (EDT)

Received: from GPC (unverified [199.174.178.76]) by plano.sff.net
(EMWAC SMTPRS 0.83) with SMTP id <B0000646818@plano.sff.net>;

Wed, 29 Jul 1998 23:03:42 -0500

Message-Id: <1.5.4.16.19980730040503.0de7bcc0@pop.sff.net>

X-Sender: gpc@pop.sff.net

X-Mailer: Windows Eudora Light Version 1.5.4 (16)

Mime-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Date: Thu, 30 Jul 1998 00:05:03 -0400

To: jak@interport.net, jeff@wam.umd.edu, tfeder@wam.umd.edu,
lugenbold@juno.com

From: gpc@sff.net (by way of "Graham P. Collins" <gpc@sff.net>)

Subject: Digital divide growing, study says

Status: O

X-Mozilla-Status: 0005

Content-Length: 3679

I figured you guys might find this interesting. (Which reminds me, I read a piece in the Post where a woman complained interminably about the trend to use "guys" as a catch-all phrase. Does that woman need to get a life or do I need to switch my usage to "guys and gals" or "people"?)

-- Graham

This NEWS.COM (<http://www.news.com/>) story has been sent to you from
gpc@sff.net.

Digital divide growing, study says

By Courtney Macavinta

July 28, 1998, 4:15 p.m. PT

<http://www.news.com/News/Item/0%2C4%2C24691%2C00.html?sas.mail>

The technology-fueled "new economy" is driving up stock prices and expanding job opportunities, but the so-called digital divide between the technological haves and have-nots is growing at an equally fast pace, the Commerce Department said today.

Commerce released its second report, entitled "Falling Through the Net II," on Americans' access to computers, phone services, and the Internet.

Although 50 percent more Americans owned computers in 1997 than in 1994, the digital divide has widened between the upper- and lower-income segments of society, according to the report. People living in rural areas at the lowest income levels are the least likely to be connected to the Net, it concluded.

The disparity also has grown among racial groups, as African Americans and Latinos buy computers and get online less frequently than whites. "Americans of all ages, races, and backgrounds increasingly are plugged in to our information infrastructure," Larry Irving, assistant secretary for communications and information for Commerce's National Telecommunications and Information Administration, said in a statement. "Nevertheless, for many Americans, access to the information superhighway is still beyond their grasp."

S 000268

At a press conference earlier today, Irving issued a challenge to close this gap. "Let's fight the war on every front. Let's make sure the 270 million Americans are all prepared for this new economy."

The report found that white households were more than twice as likely than African American and Latino homes to own a computer, breaking the estimates down to 40.8 percent for white households, 19.4 percent for Latino homes, and 19.3 percent for black households. Computer ownership levels are lower for minorities living in rural areas.

"Single-parent, female households also lag significantly behind the national average," the report states. "They are also significantly less likely than dual-parent households to have a PC, 25 percent versus 57.2 percent."

The Commerce Department report calls on lawmakers to continue to focus on wiring these households to telephones and the Net--connections that can help improve their overall economic status.

"These findings underscore the importance of programs such as NTIA's Telecommunications and Information Infrastructure Assistance Program and the e-rate," Irving noted. "Both reach out to communities that lack electronic resources at home by making electronic services available in schools, libraries, community centers, and other public resources."

Under the direction of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, the Federal Communications Commission set up the so-called e-rate to give schools, libraries, and rural health-care providers discounts on Net access.

The program kicked off this year and is supported by universal service fees paid to phone companies by long distance carriers. But strong political opposition led the FCC to cut back the e-rate program by 43 percent in June.

Received: from plano.sff.net (plano.greyscale.com [207.55.146.51])
by pol.wam.umd.edu (8.9.0.Beta6/8.9.0.Beta6) with SMTP id
XAA23625;

Mon, 10 Aug 1998 23:04:23 -0400 (EDT)

Received: from GPC (unverified [199.174.170.37]) by plano.sff.net
(EMWAC SMTPRS 0.83) with SMTP id <B0000682925@plano.sff.net>;

Mon, 10 Aug 1998 22:02:24 -0500

Message-Id: <1.5.4.16.19980811030355.275f0c8c@pop.sff.net>

X-Sender: gpc@pop.sff.net

X-Mailer: Windows Eudora Light Version 1.5.4 (16)

Mime-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Date: Mon, 10 Aug 1998 23:03:55 -0400

To: jak@interport.net, jeff@wam.umd.edu, tfeder@wam.umd.edu,
lugenbold@juno.com

From: "Graham P. Collins" <gpc@sff.net>

Subject: August issue

Status:

X-Mozilla-Status: 0005

Content-Length: 1115

Was impressed to see "visit us online at www.aip.org/pt/guide" emblazoned on the cover of the 1998 Buyers' Guide. Even more impressed by the very pretty message on that page that the wait for the Buyers' Guide would be over on September 11th. (Funny, last date I heard from Uncle Chuck, in his thanks but no thanks e-mail, was that Woodbury had agreed very competitively to get it online by September 1.)

Additional impressment achieved by the "Buyers' Guide" link on the PT home page, which goes to a location that doesn't exist on the contents summary of the August issue. (So one ends up at the bottom of the contents summary page, where there seems to be no mention of the Buyers' Guide.) I also like the nice touch of listing the headlines and summary blurbs of Search (and PC?) stories indistinguishably. i.e., the summary blurb of a story is listed as if it were the next story title.

Interesting that the "latest Web Watch" online is the April 1998 one.

But never mind that the content is so whacked out -- the important thing is that the pages =look= so much nicer.

-- Graham

S 000270

From - Sun Aug 16 02:55:25 1998
Received: from m14.boston.juno.com (m14.boston.juno.com [205.231.101.193])
by pol.wam.umd.edu (8.9.0.Beta6/8.9.0.Beta6) with ESMTTP id
MAA00699;
Fri, 14 Aug 1998 12:39:25 -0400 (EDT)
Received: (from lugenbold@juno.com)
by m14.boston.juno.com (queuemail) id DLMJG7QH; Fri, 14 Aug 1998 12:39:07 EDT
To: jak@interport.net
Cc: tfeder@wam.umd.edu, jeff@wam.umd.edu
Subject: Re: being sensitive
Message-ID: <19980814.130842.4631.1.Lugenbold@juno.com>
References: <v03110703b1f9a952e800@[207.237.105.117]>
X-Mailer: Juno 1.38
X-Juno-Line-Breaks: 0-1,3-5
From: lugenbold@juno.com (Paul J Elliott)
Date: Fri, 14 Aug 1998 12:39:07 EDT
Status:
X-Mozilla-Status: 0011
Content-Length: 396

Jean,

Twice in one week--being dissed by AIP/PT management, that is. What
next, and when? Should we use a wallchart at PT to keep track?

Paul

You don't need to buy Internet access to use free Internet e-mail.
Get completely free e-mail from Juno at <http://www.juno.com>
Or call Juno at (800) 654-JUNO [654-5866]

S 000271

From - Tue Aug 11 12:40:15 1998
Received: from plano.sff.net (plano.greyware.com [207.55.146.51])
by po2.wam.umd.edu (8.9.0.Beta6/8.9.0.Beta6) with SMTP id
JAA15791
for <jeff@wam.umd.edu>; Tue, 11 Aug 1998 09:58:37 -0400 (EDT)
Received: from GPC (unverified [199.174.239.81]) by plano.sff.net
(EMWAC SMTPRS 0.83) with SMTP id <B0000684003@plano.sff.net>;
Tue, 11 Aug 1998 08:57:33 -0500
Message-Id: <1.5.4.16.199808111135905.0d3f07cc@pop.sff.net>
X-Sender: gpc@pop.sff.net
X-Mailer: Windows Eudora Light Version 1.5.4 (16)
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Date: Tue, 11 Aug 1998 09:59:05 -0400
To: Jeff Schmidt <jeff@wam.umd.edu>, jak@interport.net, lugenbold@juno.com
From: "Graham P. Collins" <gpc@sff.net>
Subject: Re: The future -- Tuesday evening
Status:
X-Mozilla-Status: 0015
Content-Length: 281

Suits me. If I make it to a place with a xerox machine today I'll bring a
copy of the full book review column.

At 05:55 AM 8/11/98 -0700, Jeff Schmidt wrote:
>I suggest that Tuesday evening 11 August we discuss Graham's excerpts
>from Spinrad's radical spin on the future.

S 000272

Received: from bay1-25.dial.umd.edu (bay1-25.dial.umd.edu [128.8.22.25])
by po4.wam.umd.edu (8.9.0.Beta6/8.9.0.Beta6) with SMTP id
FAA24038;

Tue, 11 Aug 1998 05:56:26 -0400 (EDT)

Message-ID: <35D03F57.48D4@wam.umd.edu>

Date: Tue, 11 Aug 1998 05:55:52 -0700

From: Jeff Schmidt <jeff@wam.umd.edu>

X-Mailer: Mozilla 3.01Gold (Win16; I)

MIME-Version: 1.0

To: "Graham P. Collins" <gpc@sff.net>, jak@interport.net, tfeder@wam.umd.edu,
lugenbold@juno.com, jeff@wam.umd.edu

Subject: The future -- Tuesday evening

References: <1.5.4.16.19980811024347.2dd76342@pop.sff.net>
<35D00F64.1BCA@wam.umd.edu>

Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Status: O

X-Mozilla-Status: 0001

Content-Length: 238

I suggest that Tuesday evening 11 August we discuss Graham's excerpts
from Spinrad's radical spin on the future.

Jeff

(Graham, Could you please bring a hard copy of your e-mail message with
the excerpts? I don't have a printer.)

S 000273

To: Jean+Jeff+Toni+Paul
From: "Graham P. Collins" <gpc@sff.net>
Subject: the future
Cc:
Bcc:
X-Attachments:

"... our planetary civilization seems to have reached a corporate consensus model [...] of a single future, an official reality.

"Namely the future of 'free market (i.e., corporate capitalist) 'democracy' and a 'globalized' economy (i.e., a world in which multinational corporations are more powerful than democratically elected governments) and whose ultimate deity is the wisdom of 'market forces.' Marxist economic determinism stood on its head to read 'from each according to his lack of economic power, to each according to his greed.'

"[...] Such a future has no place for alternate cultural models in which other than economic interests are the spiritual raison d'etre. Indeed such a future cannot conceive of such a thing as a spiritual raison d'etre transcending the sacred bottom line."

"Such a civilization has no place for a seriously regarded, seriously written, visionary speculative literature that creates a multiplexity of alternative visions of virtual futures, that opens doors to visionary thought, that owes what commercial success it has to the intellectual and endorpic charge of the awakening of a sense of wonder, of the ecstatic appreciation of the glories of chaotically transcendent ongoing evolution.

"Trop hardi. [*]

"Hey, =that= kind of stuff is liable to make avidly consuming couch potatoes and minimum-wage slaves bold, daring, fearless, intrepid, audacious, venturesome, forward, and, worst of all, impudent. At the expense of productivity and the sacred bottom line."

"Such a civilization is perilously close to terminal ossification, stasis, followed by decay."

-- Norman Spinrad, "On Books: The Future of the Future," Asimov's Science Fiction, September 1998.

Trop = too

hardi = bold, daring, fearless, intrepid, audacious, venturesome, forward, impudent.

Norman Spinrad is one of Science Fiction's elder-statesman enfants terrible.

S 000274

ON BOOKS

Norman Spinrad

THE FUTURE OF THE FUTURE

CIPHERS

Paul Di Filippo
Cambrian Publications/Permeable
Press, \$18.95
ISBN 1-882633-30X
Order from Cambrian Publications
PO Box 112170
Campbell, CA 95011

CYTHERA

Richard Calder
Orbit 5.99 pounds, St. Martin's Press,
\$23.95
ISBN 0-312180-748

SECOND COMING ATTRACTIONS

David Prill
St. Martin's Press, \$22.95
ISBN 0-312181-736

LES RACINES DU MAL

Maurice G. Dantec
Gallimard, no fixed price

So we were sitting around jackpotting over tea at the mosque, and an acquaintance says: "Is anyone writing science fiction anymore?" "Huh?"

"I used to read it all the time, but I stopped about ten years ago."

I groaned. This is something you hear all the time, in France, in Britain, in the United States. There are a lot of people who read science fiction avidly in the 1960s, 1970s, and through the heyday of cyberpunk in the 1980s, who gave up on it in the 1990s.

I explained to him, as I normally do under such circumstances, that, yes, people still write science fiction, yes, there are good new writers entering the field, why I've even been known to still write the stuff myself from time to time.

And then he said something that I had never heard before, never thought before, which has haunted me ever since. "Science fiction," he said, "is a finished story."

"Say what?"

To paraphrase and condense a complex conversation, which was conducted in French anyway:

Science fiction, according to my acquaintance—the popular literature, the subculture around it, the publishing apparatus—is, or rather was, an historical phenomenon. From a future historical perspective, it will be seen to have had a beginning sometime after the turn of the twentieth century, a literary evolution that peaked between the 1960s and 1980s, and to have died out about the turn of the twenty-first century. An artistic-cum-social movement, like Impressionism, Dada, Futurism, with a beginning, a middle, and an end.

"Someone should write a novel about it," he said.

A chill went through me.

"I have," I told him. "It's called *He Walked Among Us*."

Well, partly.

The McCuffin of *He Walked Among Us* is a comedian sent back to the present from a future in which the biosphere has been assassinated to goose the timeline into a more favorable trajectory by getting on television and pretending to be what he actually is. The comedian is discovered by a sleazy talent agent who hires a kind of New Age guru-cum-actress-cum-acting coach to develop his act, and . . .

And a science fiction writer to write jokes and format.

Which is what is relevant to that discussion in the Paris mosque and its extension herein.

For, via this aspect of the story, *He Walked Among Us* explores the cultural matrix of science fiction and the relationship of the literature thereto—the conventions, the publishing, the fans, the scientists at the fringes, the idealistic *raison d'être*, the schlock—from the point of view of an insider, but also from the points of view of a New Age mystic intellectual and a Hollywood wise-guy.

So as to explicate this reality to readers totally unfamiliar with the "story" of "science fiction." Maybe not presented as a story with a beginning, a middle, and an end, but yes, seen in a certain sense as an esthetic and cultural movement like Dada or Futurism or Impressionism, and therefore, I suppose in retrospect, implying a closure.

Not that I exactly realized this while I was writing it.

I have never had as much trouble trying to get a novel published in my three decades plus as a published novelist. Not even the notorious *Bug Jack Barron*, denounced on the floor of the British Parliament. Not even *The Iron Dream*, banned in Germany for eight years. Not even *The Solaris*, about whose literary quality the less said the better.

Okay, that it would be hard to publish such a work as a mainstream novel in the contemporary context is not surprising. But that no science fiction publisher would touch it with a fork made no sense, particularly since one of the publishers who wouldn't subsequently contracted for a new unwritten science fiction novel. Made no sense, that is, until that conversation in the mosque.

Hence the sudden chill.

I do try my best to keep my own fiction out of these discussions, which at times involves considerable contortions. At times like this I fail,

Asimov's

since I have been writing science fiction for over thirty years, and since it is the opinions of critics other than myself that certain trends would be difficult to explicate without at least reference thereto. But at least I believe I have avoided discussing the quality or lack thereof of my own fiction, which would admittedly be going way over the top.

Fortunately for me as a critic—if not for the writers in question—I have before me two novels, *Ciphers* by Paul Di Filippo and *Les Racines du Mal* by Maurice G. Dantec, neither of which have found a major American publisher, science fiction or otherwise, and about both of which I can forthrightly declare what I could hardly presume to even intimate about one of my own.

Namely, that, conservatively speaking, both *Ciphers* and *Les Racines Du Mal* are literarily superior to 95 percent of what *has* been published in the main science fiction lines over the past five or so years.

Okay, so the Dantec is written in French and runs over six hundred pages in that language, even though there is a film in the offing—a Hollywood-financed film at that.

But the Di Filippo is not nearly so long, is written in admirably entertaining English, is steeped in American popular culture, and yet has been published as a cooperative effort by two obscure Californian small presses, Cambrian Publications and Permeable Press.

Here we have two major groundbreaking novels, both easily qualifiable as science fiction, both massively superior to most of the last decade's Hugo and Nebula winners, both potentially more influential to the upward evolution of the literature than anything since *Neuromancer*, neither of which has found major publication in the United States.

Yes, that's a large claim for these novels, and I will indeed attempt to

justify it later. But first a short detour to fifteenth century China, by way of explaining why the frisson of dread evoked within me by the notion that science fiction may be a "finished story" went far beyond literary matters or my own difficulties in finding a publisher for a book.

As the medieval period in Europe was in the process of transforming itself into the age of exploration and the Renaissance, China had for several centuries had a technological civilization a century or two in advance of any other in the world. Not just movable type well in advance of Gutenberg, but mass printings of books and journals. Not just gunpowder fireworks, but war rockets with explosive warheads, Gatling guns of sorts, ironclad warships, a kind of tank. Advanced medical practices, complexly geared production machinery, sophisticated metallurgy. Perhaps, according to some accounts, even heavier-than-air human-carrying kites. Under the admiral-emperor Zheng He, a precursor of Prince Henry the Navigator, an age of exploration was underway. Chinese fleets reached India and Africa, some say even the Americas. A dynamically evolving technological civilization about to be born. . . .

And then, at the peak of its momentum—

It stopped.

Dynamic Chinese civilization pulled back, froze, ossified, declined. What, you may ask, does this have to do with science fiction?

Unfortunately for the Chinese, nothing.

They didn't have a literary form like it.

Western technological civilization, which we may arbitrarily date from the invention of the steam engine, did. All through the nineteenth and twentieth century, reaching its full literary flowering, interestingly

enough, in the 1960s and 1970s, just as men were setting foot on the Moon, just as an age of space exploration seemed to be dawning, just as culture, music, art, human consciousness itself seemed embarked on an evolutionary path upward and onward, inward and outward.

And then, at the peak of its momentum—

Did it stop?

Certainly the age of space exploration stopped, as witness the disjunction between, say, Kubrick's 1960s vision of 2001 and what we will have three years from now, and seeing as how the general 1960s assumption that we would be on Mars in about 1980 proved to be, shall we say, a tad overoptimistic.

But I would contend it goes a lot deeper than that.

Upwardly evolving technological civilization was born exactly once on this planet. The classical Greeks had a curious little gizmo called an aetolipile, which, scaled up and attached to a gear-train, would've been a steam turbine. They never thought of it. The Aztecs invented the wheel and built toys that rolled around like wagons—but never took it any further. The Chinese were on the brink—but never crossed it.

Only in Western Europe and North America along about the turn of the eighteenth century or so was that elusive line crossed with the invention of the steam engine, which led to the steamboat, and the railroad, and production machinery driven by steam-power, and all that followed between then and that famous first footprint on the Moon.

What did "western civilization" have that every previous human civilization lacked?

In a word, the future.

The concept of "the future" with which we are all so familiar.

The central precept of science fiction without which the literature

could not have been born and without which it cannot continue to exist.

Namely that the future will be different from the present, that what the future will be will in large part be determined by what we do in the present, that "the future" is therefore actually a multiplicity of virtual futures, that humanity can remake the world to its own heart's desires or worst nightmares or both; that indeed, for better or for worse, this is quite unavoidable, that "progress" in the sense of material, intellectual, and spiritual upward evolution is, if not inevitable, then certainly possible.

This seems so obvious to us that we don't even think about it. This has been the impulsive force of "western civilization" for at least two centuries. This is what has now made "western civilization" a planetary civilization. This is what put human footprints on the Moon and sleazy Hollywood product on satellite television in the heart of Africa and the depths of the New Guinea jungle.

This concept of the future, however, is by no means an historical universal, in time or in space. It arose in the west around the dawning of the nineteenth century, along with the beginnings of the literature that expressed and to some extent created it and that would become "science fiction" in the twentieth century.

This, I submit, was no coincidence. For without such a concept of the future, a visionary literature like "science fiction" cannot exist. And vice versa. For without a means of visionary speculation such as "science fiction," such a concept of the future cannot arise or persist.

The fourteenth and fifteenth century Chinese, materially speaking, were on the brink of creating an evolving technological civilization that would've led to manned flight by the sixteenth century, space travel by the eighteenth, what we can scarcely imagine by now. But they

never crossed that brink. They stopped. They fell back.

They lacked only one thing—that visionary concept of "the future," that speculative imagination that is the essence of "science fiction."

Hence the full depths of that frisson of dread at the concept that "science fiction" could be a "finished story." We do indeed know where and when that story began. We have lived through the long flowering of its middle. Does that story have an end?

And if does, what ends with it?

Has it happened already?

When it comes to the commercial, cultural, and editorial machinery of "science fiction," the life-signs are hard to find in an era when its publishing apparatus and apparatuses are malfunctioning to the point where a major novel like *Ciphers* is published by a "small press."

Ciphers is a difficult novel to describe, the central McGuffin being the easiest of it. Cyril Prothero's girlfriend Ruby and his best friend Augie are abducted for unknown nefarious purposes by agents of Wu Labs, a tentacular conspiracy led in apparent absentia by the eternal and eternally elusive Dr. Wu, who may be a kind of avatar of a kind of god-head. Cyril and Augie's girlfriend Polly set out to rescue them.

There are several other viewpoint characters, most of whom are connected to Dr. Wu by one elusive ectoplasmic thread or another, all of whom metamorphose, interrelate in unexpected time-warped manners, as *Ciphers* moves around in space and time non-linearly and seamlessly from Boston to Cambodia to Da-homey to the Haight-Ashbury to quantum-level virtual reality to various mystical realms, from the Summer of Love to contemporary Boston to ancient China to early post-colonial Africa to the inside of Schrödinger's cat box.

Ciphers is at once comically out-

geous and in metaphysical earnest, politically outraged and light-hearted, science fiction and fantasy. It deals with biochemistry, molecular biology, quantum physics, and chaos theory, on a level of scientific rigor rescued from didacticism only by the madcap humor of the off-the-wall explanations. It treats any number of mystical systems, real and imagined, as existing on the same reality level, arguing thereby that they do. It incorporates a secret history of the War on Drugs, the machinations of the CIA in Indochina and the French in Africa, economic theory, and much, much more.

If this sounds heavy, over-intellectualized, and tendentious, nothing could be further from the truth. *Ciphers* may indeed be seriously intended, but it is a comic novel, and all of the above is enlivened by Di Filippo's Holy Trinity, to wit, and I do mean *viz*, Sex, Drugs, and Rock and Roll.

Politically Incorrect?

Ciphers is full of enthusiastically described explicit sex of virtually every persuasion—heterosexual, homosexual, machismoistic, feminist, cunnilingus, fellatio, buggery, doing it with *snakes*. Di Filippo also displays an unabashed affection for the consciousness-enhancing puissance of various illicit substances, real and imagined, and rips the Drug Enforcement Agency, the War on Drugs, the very metaphysics of the Great God Money itself into well-reasoned giggling shreds.

In your face?

The front cover features a full-color photograph of a well-built nude young lady entwined by a python and the back cover a nude black-and-white photo of the somewhat less shapely author himself.

But *Ciphers* is not an angry novel, it isn't really out to shock anyone per se, though no doubt it will; it's almost relentlessly good-humored.

It is also enormously self-indulgent. It raises self-indulgence to a consciously crafted artform. And makes it work.

Paul Di Filippo herein seldom for long lets the reader forget that Paul Di Filippo is narrating this tale. When the author wants to address you directly—within a scene, with a subordinate clause or a parenthesis inside a sentence, with a pages long discursive digression—he just goes ahead and does it, without apology, without hiding it behind some clever technique, without shame.

As if to say, hey, this *is* a novel, and I am writing it, after all, so why play the game that it isn't and I'm not, when it's more fun not to?

Di Filippo also indulges himself and the reader with his love for and encyclopedic knowledge of twenty years of rock and roll, incorporating bits and pieces of lyrics, some obvious, some obscure, not merely in every chapter, but practically in every paragraph of every chapter. To give you an idea, there is a thirty-four-page chapter-by-chapter glossary at the back of the book explicating references, the lion's share of which are rock lyrics.

If this sounds as if you need the glossary to read the novel, au contraire. Indeed, for me at least, and I expect it will be the same for many readers, the surprise is how many of these song references you know and recognize the moment you read them, as if the whole point of the glossary is to make you recognize how deeply rock and roll has penetrated your consciousness, indeed the extent to which contemporary consciousness has been *formed* by this stuff.

And not for the worse.

Except toward the very end of the novel where the effect thickens a bit too much when it should be thinning. Di Filippo's intimate incorporation of rock lyrics into his own prose line

works either amusingly or invisibly, giving a line an added resonance comic or otherwise when you get it, passing for the author's own prose when you don't.

Except—

Except once in a while, you have to put the book down for a beat when a really outrageously apropos song reference produces a pleasurable reaction somewhere between laughter and the groan elicited by a truly over-the-top pun.

If this sounds as if I haven't enjoyed a science fiction novel this much in years, well, I haven't. *Ciphers* is not only a multileveled intellectual and spiritual magical mystery tour written with elegant exuberance, it's *fun*. Yes indeed, it rocks and it rolls, it shimmies and it shakes, it crawls on its belly like a reptile!

If a novel like *Ciphers* is not at least a finalist for the Hugo and the Nebula, those awards will be reduced to the literary credibility of bowling trophies. Assuming this hasn't happened already.

So how is it possible that *Ciphers* was not published in a major way by a major publisher?

Okay, so Paul Di Filippo is known as a supporter of the small press movement, so for all I know, he chose not to submit the manuscript to the majors for idealistic ideological reasons. But that would still beg the question of . . . why? Why would a writer who had produced a novel of this stature feel he had to go that route?

Surely any editor who could not recognize *Ciphers* as an eminently publishable masterpiece should be certified as brain dead, taken off the life-support machinery, and given a decent burial.

Or not?

I recently had a novel rejected by a French publisher (admittedly later picked up by another one) as "trop hardi." My French being what it is, I

Asimov's

knew that "trop" meant "too much," but I had to look up the translation of "hardi".

Bold, daring, fearless, intrepid, audacious, venturesome, forward, impudent.

How can a novel, let alone a science fiction novel, be rejected for being *too bold, daring, fearless, intrepid, audacious, venturesome, forward, impudent*, you may well ask, as I did, without coming up with any good answers.

Aren't these qualities *virtues*? Aren't they particularly *science fictional* literary virtues?

For sure these are qualities that *Ciphers* has in abundance. Certainly no editor of a science fiction line could be enough of a philistine to stand up in public and contend that they are flaws!

Publishing executives, however, the corporate bean-counters and pencil-pushers, are another matter. Years ago, Ron Busch, president of Pocket Books, in canceling David Hartwell's Timescape line, explained in the pages of the New York Times that he was doing it because the books were *too intelligent*. He wanted to start a new line that would publish *stupider* books.

Really. No shit. You could look it up.

"Trop hardi."

Welcome to the Corporate Monkey House.

Yes, it would seem that it is now possible for a science fiction novel to be rendered commercially non-viable in the eyes of the publishing powers that be by an *excess* of literary virtues!

What further sign do we need that the "story" of science fiction, its genre publishing apparatus, its subculture of fans, its dedicated idealistic science fiction writers, its passionate editors, has reached an ending, and not a happy one?

Well, only one, much more dire, not merely for science fiction, but, I

would contend, for our planetary civilization itself.

And, alas, we have it.

Science fiction would seem to have lost its visionary raison d'être. Our civilization would seem to have lost its positive evolutionary concept of "the future."

Perhaps you've noticed that even the best science fiction of the past few years and more seems to be dystopian to one degree or another, dealing at best with idealistic heroic figures attempting to revive the visionary virtues in a future devolved in one way or another from the present. Even the four novels dealt with in this current essay, all of which I find admirable, cannot summon up a credible vision of a future more attractive, more truly evolved, than our present.

The more "advanced" human cultures we do see seem more advanced only in surface technological terms, not politically, culturally, morally, or spiritually, and characters whose consciousnesses are convincingly portrayed as more highly evolved than our own in such terms are, to say the least, few and far between.

Not so coincidentally, our planetary civilization itself seems to have lost the ability to see the future as much of anything positive beyond the present with more and better products, an ever-increasing planetary GDP, higher profit margins, and a bull market that goes ever on.

Worse than the loss of the Space Age as the new age of exploration, as the dawn of a transplanetary transformational civilization—and that is bad enough—our planetary civilization seems to have reached a corporate consensus model not of a multiplicity of possible virtual futures, but of a single future, an official reality.

Namely the future of "free market" (i.e., corporate capitalist) "democracy" and a "globalized" economy (i.e., a

world in which multinational corporations are more powerful than democratically elected governments) and whose ultimate deity is the wisdom of "market forces." Marxist economic determinism stood on its head to read "from each according to his lack of economic power, to each according to his greed."

Such a future has no place for a space program following a visionary exploratory and evolutionary vector unless it does so at a profit. Such a future cannot conceive of human consciousness evolving beyond its own limited parameters, cannot even perceive those parameters as limited. Such a future has no place for alternate cultural models in which other than economic interests are the spiritual raison d'être. Indeed such a future cannot conceive of such a thing as a spiritual raison d'être, transcending the sacred bottom line.

Such a civilization has no place for a seriously regarded, seriously written, visionary speculative literature that creates a multiplicity of alternative visions of virtual futures, that opens the doors to visionary thought, that owes what commercial success it has to the intellectual and esthetic charge of the awakening of a sense of wonder, of the ecstatic appreciation of the glories of chaotically transcendent ongoing evolution.

Trop hard!

Hey, that kind of stuff is liable to make avidly consuming couch-potatoes and minimum-wage slaves bold, daring, fearless, intrepid, audacious, venturesome, forward, and, worst of all, impudent. At the expense of productivity and the sacred bottom line.

Such a civilization is perilously close to terminal ossification, stasis, followed by decay. Such a civilization must trivialize anything like "science fiction" out of serious and/or widespread cultural and intellectual centrality.

Which, perhaps, is another way of

saying that any civilization that does this to whatever should serve the cultural function of "science fiction" or, worse, never develops anything like it, sooner or later writes the ending of its own story thereby.

And to that of "science fiction" as well. We're not dealing with linear causality here. "Science fiction" may be the minor node and "global civilization" the major, but this is a negative devolutionary feedback loop, just as the co-evolution of "science fiction" and "western technological civilization" from the late stages of the Age of Reason to the peak of the late lamented Space Age was a positive one.

Is there then, no hope?

Well, the four books under present consideration certainly demonstrate not only that fine work is still being done within the literary parameters of science fiction, but that at least in one case, a corner of "science fiction" genre publishing has served as a refuge for a strange and somehow charming novel that would seem not to fall within those literary parameters at all but which it would be hard to imagine published elsewhere.

As the small press publication of *Cythera* would seem to demonstrate, the commercial heart of the SF genre having been hollowed out, the place to look for signs of creative life is around the fringes.

Well, sort of. St. Martin's Press is a major house and like most majors, part of some vaguer and vaster corporate entity, but Gordon Van Gelder's science fiction line there seems to function as a kind of "giant small press."

At a recent SF convention panel that had writers contemplating slitting their wrists as a good representation of SF editors bemoaned the state of the genre to the point where one editor half-seriously threatened to do her own, the general consensus was, if you've got something weird,

don't send it to me, send it to Gordon Van Gelder.

Van Gelder sighed, shrugged, said "Yeah, send it to me."

And over the last few years, Van Gelder has published a disproportionate amount of the best cutting edge speculative fiction, considering the modest number of titles St. Martin's brings out annually—and, as far as I can remember, no cynical schlock. Here we have one of the last SF editors to follow his own taste rather than the bottom line, fortunately a sophisticated and eclectic taste.

Take the two St. Martin's titles currently in question: *Cythera* by Richard Calder and *Second Coming* Attractions by David Prill.

Calder is a British writer of considerable talent who had such trouble getting his work published in the United States that his British agent complained to me about it. I read the British edition of his first novel, *Dead Girls*, and was so impressed that I reviewed it in these pages, and so began my policy of being open as a reviewer to works that have not yet found an American publisher. Coincidentally, I believe, Van Gelder picked up the novel for St. Martin's, and has been publishing Calder ever since, *Cythera* being Calder's fourth novel, and perhaps his best yet.

Cythera is not an "easy read." It is not written in transparent prose; its storyline is recursive, its imagery simultaneously refers back to Calder's previous books and to some deep allusive and elusive psychic structure that at least seems to emerge from the author's subconsciousness itself; characters mutate into virtual versions of themselves, certain scenes may be offensive to most and are so intended, and the ultimate nature of the interpenetrating realities remain difficult to fathom to the end.

Cythera is mostly set in, aside from various virtual realities, an

Antarctica of the next century somewhat resembling a post-mining boom Alaska or Nevada falling apart, and a Bangkok one night in which might indeed make a strong man tremble.

Attempting to summarize the story, a formidable task to begin with, is made more difficult by the fact that the main viewpoint characters—call them one-time shock-porn star Dahlia Chan, her lover-fan with a multitude of names, the Thai thief-cum-hooker Mosquito, the shock-porn film director Flynn who created Dahlia Chan in deeper ways than one—mutate continuously, changing names, personas, reality levels.

In this future, the electronic loas of cyberspace, herein the "fibersphere," have broken through "The Wound" between fiberspace (a.k.a. Earth 2), created by schlocko shock-porn, among other media things, and our flesh-and-blood reality, Earth 1.

While they can exist in Earth 1, they lack true embodiment. Dahlia, creature of fiberspace, created as a sex-fantasy-image for, yes, children, by Flynn, and her fan-boy lover and champion, an Earth 1 human to begin with, spend the novel on a multi-leveled multi-reality vision-quest-cum-search for Cythera, a.k.a. Earth 3, where the denizens of fiberspace and Earth 1 can unite in a synthesis reality.

Well, that's a sort of plot summary, but there's much, much more beneath it, involving childhood sexuality, fetishistic fixations, the desperate attempt to escape the image of evil fatherhood in search of the good, the capture of libido by the media manipulators and its perversion for political and murky psychological ends, the fear of child sexuality and its transformation into the imagery of child-as-demon, etc.

Not an easy read. In parts not a very pleasant read. Definitely not the sort of thing ever to become even

an "SF best-seller." But elegantly and powerfully written, deep, disturbingly thoughtful, formally innovative, and yes, in the end, formally, thematically, and emotionally well-resolved.

In a review of an earlier Calder, I opined that "if you like William Burroughs, you'll probably like *Dead Boys*." That remains true of *Cythera*, but here Calder has progressed. There will be people who cannot get through *Nova Express* or *Naked Lunch* or stuff like *The Ticket that Exploded* who will be able to read *Cythera* with comprehension and enjoyment. It's a bit as if the mature Burroughs of those novels had revisited the early lucidity of *Junkie* (originally published by the way by Ace!) and found a balance between imagistic power, formal structure, and coherent storytelling.

Trop hardi for mainline genre SF? Better believe it. But Van Gelder managed to publish it in his "SF line" anyway.

He also somehow managed to publish *Second Coming Attractions* by David Prill as "SF," a novel that would seem to have no connection to the genre or for that matter to anything else I've ever read either.

Second Coming Attractions is set entirely within the contemporary (and presumably fictional) world of American inspirational Christian film-making, replete with studios, award ceremonies, stars, business rivalries. The packaging, and indeed the very concept, leads you to expect a piss-take on Hollywood via evangelical Christianity and/or a piss-take on evangelical Christianity via Hollywood.

But that's not what you get. What you get instead is something strange, gentle, and . . . and, understand I mean this in a positive sense, rather sweet.

The main viewpoint character is Leviticus Speck, second in command

of Good Samaritan Films, founded and still presided over by his father Noah. Secondary viewpoint characters are Rance Jericho, an actor who made a career playing Jesus for Good Samaritan but now grown too long in the tooth for the part, and Leviticus' sister Evie, who falls in love with Ricky Bible, who replaces him in the role.

The nemesis of Good Samaritan is Blood of the Lamb Pictures, an upstart outfit that takes market-share away from Good Samaritan's gentle, positive, inspirational product with a line of films featuring the Fetal Detective, a wise-cracking, hard-boiled fetus in a fedora with a forty-five, who blows away abortionists and their evil minions in the service of the Unborn.

Yes, there is a certain amount of satire here, a gentle send-up of Hollywood via its Christian inspirational cognates, and something more sharp-edged when we get to the Fetal Detective. But not of sincere Christianity.

I do believe that while you don't have to be a sincere Christian to enjoy *Second Coming Attractions* (I did and I certainly am not) any sincere Christian with a reasonably open mind could read this novel with pleasure, rather than ire. Virtually every character in *Second Coming Attractions* is a sincere Christian, and sympathetically portrayed as such. Even their moral dilemmas and conflicts, and they do have them, take place entirely within a consensus and unchallenged Christian context.

One may be led to believe that it will ultimately be revealed that Satan is behind Blood of the Lamb Pictures, but Prill takes no such cheap and obvious shot, though the novel clearly comes down squarely against the anger and methods of the anti-abortion movement, the "Angry Lambs," as Leviticus calls them. There is moral conflict at the core of

the novel, but it is moral conflict between different persuasions of sincere believing Christians.

Why, you may well ask, did Gordon Van Gelder publish a book like *Second Coming Attractions* in an "SF" line? The answer would seem to simply be that he liked it, and he could, and where else was something like this going to be published?

Which perhaps begs the question of why Van Gelder can publish an SF line consisting entirely of books like *Cythera* and *Second Coming Attractions* without any concession to cynical schlock or, seemingly, the commercial bottom line, when virtually no other major publisher seems to be doing it?

Well, I said earlier that the St. Martin's line seems to function as a "giant small press"—large print runs by small press standards maybe, but not by the standards of a major publisher. Modest commercial expectations. Modest advances. Modest distribution. Modest returns. Modest but acceptable profits at the end of the fiscal year.

Which seems to be what SF genre publishing has come to. The works that should be literarily central must be published along the commercial fringes. Nothing is trop hardi if no significant money is riding on it.

Is this then, the terminal future of science fiction—schlock at the commercial center, the heartfelt, seriously intended fiction surviving precariously at the margins? Is such cultural marginalization—cynical commercial product on a mass market level and museum-piece preservation of its creative core for a small and dwindling specialty readership—the end of "science fiction's story"?

The signs are not good, especially when you consider that that is precisely what has happened to so-called "mainstream literature."

On the other hand, while the future may look grim for the collective-

ty of the so-called "SF community," certain individual writers, being visionaries with publishing street smarts, are beginning to fashion their own escape acts, as witness what Maurice G. Dantec has managed with *Les Racines du Mal*, at least in France.

Published properly in English, this would be a landmark novel, but that might be a tall order, and not just because it is 636 pages long and written in French. Indeed, had it been published in an SF line in France, it might not have achieved the critical and commercial success it enjoyed there either.

Les Racines du Mal transcends genre not because it works the interface between the science fiction and "roman noir" genres but because it quite thoroughly incorporates both of them.

The first hundred plus pages are a breathtaking tour de force, describing the serial-killing rampage of Andreas Schaltzmann, from both inside the killer's consciousness and from a cold clinical exterior viewpoint, both in third person. A kind of French version of Brett Easton Ellis's *American Psycho*, made much more interesting by the alternation of Schaltzmann's paranoid schizophrenic science fictional viewpoint with Dantec's cool objective external narration.

When Schaltzmann is finally apprehended, the usual closure to this sort of thing, there are still more than five hundred pages of novel left, and Dantec switches over to the first person viewpoint of Arthur Darquandier, a kind of quantum neuroscientist-cum-psychologist, who along with Drs. Stefan Gombrowitz and Svetlana Terekhovna form a team examining the psyche of Schaltzmann for the defense.

In the course of their investigations, they discover that Schaltzmann could not have committed sev-

eral of the killings, but this seems to go nowhere as Schaltzmann is put away, the case closed, and Darquandier leaves France, the present, and the roman noir genre for Canada and then Australia, the near future, and science fiction, as he spends years working on the successful development of neural networks for the NASA space program. This eventuates in one he can load in his laptop, that is partially modeled on his own consciousness, and that is indeed an authentic being, in a manner we will get to shortly.

Darquandier eventually returns to France with his software alter-ego, a.k.a. Dr. Schizzo, and incorporates Schaltzmann's consciousness model into the software. When Schaltzmann kills himself and more murders fitting the old pattern are committed, Darquandier, Dr. Schizzo, and Svetlana return to a chase and detection story line, which takes them through the Alps, through various sinister role-playing virtual realities, in search of the killer cult behind it all.

So much for the plot, which skillfully combines science fiction and the so-called "roman noir," also called the "polar," literally meaning "black novel," a French genre generally translated as "mystery" or "detective novel" but as seen from the above encompassing somewhat more than that implies in English.

On the basis of this skillful melding of genres into a whole greater than the sum of its parts, *Les Racines du Mal* would be noteworthy—but, there's much more to the novel than that.

Dantec is both streetwise and erudite. On a science fictional level, he imbues "Dr. Schizzo" with genuine consciousness not merely by modeling the A.I. on Darquandier's and later Schaltzmann's consciousness but by incorporating a chaos factor, a quantum indeterminacy, wherein,

he argues on several levels, resides the essence of consciousness as opposed to mere intelligence, being as opposed to mere modeling thereof.

After giving the most lucid explanation of the metaphysics of Cabala that I've ever seen, he then seamlessly relates this to quantum mechanics and chaos theory and his self-conscious neural network.

This, in turn, develops into a kind of psychoanalytic exploration of Nazism, the war in Bosnia, the consciousness of serial killers, computer nerdism, and role-playing games, which, as it turns out, reveals the title, "The Roots of Evil" in English, as somewhat ironic, for it turns out that this evil is generated by a *détachement* from roots—metaphysical in Cabalistic terms, developmental in psychoanalytic terms, emotional in terms of detachment from flesh-and-blood reality on the part of the psychotic cyber role-playing serial killers.

And subtly more, for Darquandier himself, psychically not the most reliable of narrators, is himself "cut off from roots" in this sense, as becomes a bit more apparent as his psyche becomes somewhat more like those of his prey as he tracks them.

All this, mind you, conveyed in a fast-moving, violent, action story that delves deeper into the psychology of science fictional role-playing fandoms than those folks might find comfortable.

Could *Les Racines du Mal* have been published in a French SF line? Probably, a decade ago, somewhat doubtful now, the regular SF lines already feeling the cold breath of the bottom line à la America on the backs of their necks.

Be that as it may, Dantec avoided that publishing mode, opting instead for "roman noir" publication, still a genre, perhaps, but one currently with greater literary latitude in France than SF, and a larger demo-

graphic slice of the reading audience, largely because the packagers and marketers, in the usual self-fulfilling prophecy, perceive that audience as more adult, more upscale, more general, and larger than that for the stuff with the rocketships on the covers.

Can *Les Racines du Mal* be published in an American SF line? Well, obviously the cost of translating 636 pages of French is a severe handicap, which is to say there would seem to be no way a small press, even a "giant small press," could do it as a modest investment in fringe publication.

But even were it written in English, it would probably have to be done by a small press à la *Ciphers*, or, paradoxically, in a major way as a "thriller," which is to say not that much unlike the way it was successfully published in France.

Trop hardi for the main commercial SF lines.

Which is another way of saying that there would seem now to be only individual solutions for individual writers or even individual books.

That's the bad news.

The historical story of "genre science fiction" as a coherent literary and social movement may indeed be drawing to a close, nor should we pretend that nothing of value will be lost thereby.

The good news is that from a longer historical perspective it may just turn out that "science fiction" as a marginalized genre of commercial fiction had to die in order to liberate science fiction as a visionary literature and the sincere dedicated writers thereof from both the constraints and the comforts of the cozy genre ghetto.

So that it might finally move into the center of cultural discourse where it belongs and is desperately needed.

And survive as something broader and deeper therein.

Along with, if we are fortunate, our planetary civilization. ○

From: "Jean A. Kumagai" <jak@interport.net>
To: ACP.AIP(CHARRIS,TFEDER,SBENKA,PELLIOT,JSCHMIDT,BSC...
Date: 6 Aug 1998 (Thu) 7:43
Subject: everyday physics topic

The July/August issue of the AAPM newsletter has a story on "cosmic radiation exposure of airline crews, passengers and astronauts." It summarizes talks given at the annual NCRP (don't know what that stands for -- "something something Radiation Physics" probably) meeting. I think the topic might be appropriate for our everyday physics special issue. (Several years ago AIP did a TV spot on flying and radiation exposure, and it was quite popular, as I recall.)

The newsletter should be in the PT library; the write-up starts on page 19.

Jean

S 000281

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From: "Jean A. Kumagai" <jak@interport.net>
Subject: everyday physics topic
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S 000282

From: Paul Elliott (Paul Elliot)
To: sbenka, cday, I:tfeder@wam.umd.edu,tgary,charris,w...
Date: 30 Jul 1998 (Thu) 0:57
Subject: My Availability for Copyediting, July 30-August 11

I will be here for seven of the next nine working days (including today)--that is, between now and closing. I will be out of the office and not available on Friday, July 31, and Thursday, August 6.

Currently, I am working on the letters department and also making my copyediting way through three major items for September--two articles and an opinion essay (and doing so in the order in which I received them). I expect to complete one article (Geim) and the essay by Monday and the other article (Beller) by Tuesday. I also expect to close the letters department by Wednesday.

I will be available to work on "Search" stories possibly as early as Wednesday and definitely by Friday--and also will stand ready to handle them if needed on the following Monday and Tuesday.

In addition, I expect to be able to make time to copyedit the remaining "Physics Community" stories--and the scheduled "Meeting Preview"--during the week of August 3.

If you have any questions or comments about this memo, contact me asap.

PE

S 000283

From: toni feder <tfeder@wam.umd.edu>
To: barbara goss levi <bgl@postoffice.worldnet.att.net...>
Date: 3 Aug 1998 (Mon) 18:54
Subject: possible topic for Search or article

The current issue of Science (31 July) reports on an observation of circularly polarized light from a star-forming cloud. A NYT story (31 July, page A15) covers the Science story, and emphasizes the possible implications for the origins of life in terms of the origins of an unequal distribution of left- and right-handed chiral molecules.

I think it would be a good topic for us to cover-- not necessarily specifically these findings, but the topic of the origin of biology's left-handed chirality.

--- Toni

S 000284

Received: from po4.wam.umd.edu
([128.8.10.166])
by acpgate.acp.org; Mon, 03 Aug 1998 18:54:43 -0400
Received: from rac6.wam.umd.edu ((IDENT root)@rac6.wam.umd.edu [128.8.10.146])
by po4.wam.umd.edu (8.9.0.Beta6/8.9.0.Beta6) with ESMTTP id SAA21643;
Mon, 3 Aug 1998 18:54:40 -0400 (EDT)
Received: from rac6.wam.umd.edu ((IDENT sendmail)@localhost [127.0.0.1])
by rac6.wam.umd.edu (8.9.0.Beta6/8.9.0.Beta6) with ESMTTP id SAA24563;
Mon, 3 Aug 1998 18:54:39 -0400 (EDT)
Received: from localhost by rac6.wam.umd.edu (8.9.0.Beta6/8.9.0.Beta6) with SMTP id
SAA24558;
Mon, 3 Aug 1998 18:54:38 -0400 (EDT)
X-Authentication-Warning: rac6.wam.umd.edu: tfeder owned process doing -bs
Date: Mon, 3 Aug 1998 18:54:38 -0400 (EDT)
From: toni feder <tfeder@wam.umd.edu>
To: barbara goss levi <bgl@postoffice.worldnet.att.net>, bschwarz@aip.acp.org,
jschmidt@aip.acp.org, stephen benka <sbenka@aip.acp.org>, cday@aip.org,
gbl2@aip.org, Jean Kumagai <jak@interport.net>
Subject: possible topic for Search or article
Message-ID: <Pine.GSO.3.95q.980803184809.23992A-100000@rac6.wam.umd.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

S 000285

From: Charles Day
To: ACP.AIP(BSCHWARZ, glubkin, JSCHMIDT, SBENKA, TFEDE...
Date: 4 Aug 1998 (Tue) 15:48
Subject: Leopold Infeld centennial meeting -Reply

Hello all,

Infeld's obit appeared in PT's March 1968 issue. (Jean, I've just faxed a copy to you.)

Chas

S 000286

From: "Jeff Schmidt" <jschmidt@aip.acp.org>
To: ACP.AIP(CDAY,peiliot,bschwarz),ACP.ACPgate("bgl@wo...
Date: 18 Jul 1998 (Sat) 23:22
Subject: Style committee

Yes, the style committee should finally hold its first meeting. As a member of the committee, I agree with Jean that the committee should only make recommendations. The editorial staff should vote on each item.

Jeff

CC: ACP.AIP(JSCHMIDT,JBARKER,GLUBKIN,wkornber,sbenka),...

S 000287

Received: from acpgate.acp.org
([149.28.226.101])
by acpgate.acp.org; Sat, 18 Jul 1998 23:37:31 -0400
Received: from ACP-Message_Server by acpgate.acp.org
with Novell_GroupWise; Sat, 18 Jul 1998 23:37:31 -0400
Message-Id: <s5b131bb.074@acpgate.acp.org>
X-Mailer: Novell GroupWise 5.2
Date: Sat, 18 Jul 1998 23:22:36 -0400
From: "Jeff Schmidt" <jschmidt@aip.acp.org>
To: bschwarz@aip.acp.org, pelliot@aip.acp.org, cday@aip.org,
jak@interport.net, tfeder@wam.umd.edu, bgl@worldnet.att.net
Cc: goodwin@aip.acp.org, jschmidt@aip.acp.org, sbenka@aip.acp.org,
wkornber@aip.acp.org, gbl2@aip.org, jbarker@aip.org
Subject: Style committee
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-Disposition: inline

S 000288

From: "Jean A. Kumagai" <jak@interport.net>
To: toni feder <tfeder@wam.umd.edu>, paul elliott <pel...>
Date: 18 Jul 1998 (Sat) 14:31
Subject: Re: http

I think the style committee should get together and discuss the http matter and whatever other style points are currently in dispute, and then issue a list of recommendations or proposed changes, which the editorial staff would then vote on.

Jean

CC: stephen benka <sbenka@aip.acp.org>, Jean Kumagai <...>

S 000289

Received: from amsterdam.interport.net
([199.184.165.9])
by acpgate.acp.org; Sat, 18 Jul 1998 14:31:48 -0400
Received: from [207.237.106.21] (usrtslp118.port.net [207.237.104.118])
by amsterdam.interport.net (8.8.5/8.8.5) with ESMTP id OAA16031;
Sat, 18 Jul 1998 14:31:41 -0400 (EDT)
Date: Sat, 18 Jul 1998 14:31:41 -0400 (EDT)
X-Sender: jak@pop.interport.net
Message-Id: <v03110702bld523c3ee46@[207.237.109.114]>
In-Reply-To: <Pine.SOL.3.95q.980717151005.4600E-100000@rac7.wam.umd.edu>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
To: toni feder <tfeder@wam.umd.edu>, cday@aip.org,
paul elliott <pelliot@aip.acp.org>,
barbara goss levi <bgl@worldnet.att.net>, bschwarz@aip.acp.org
From: "Jean A. Kumagai" <jak@interport.net>
Subject: Re: http
Cc: goodwin@aip.acp.org, jschmidt@aip.acp.org,
stephen benka <sbenka@aip.acp.org>, wkornber@aip.acp.org,
Jean Kumagai <jak@interport.net>, gbl2@aip.org, jbarker@aip.acp.org

S 000290

From: "Jean A. Kumagai" <jak@interport.net>
To: ACP.AIP(JSCHMIDT), ACP.ACPgate("lugenbold@juno.com"...
Date: 20 Jul 1998 (Mon) 13:01
Subject: style committee

i sent this to toni but thought you might also enjoy it.

>Date: Sat, 18 Jul 1998 14:31:41 -0400 (EDT)
>X-Sender: jak@pop.interport.net
>Mime-Version: 1.0
>To: toni feder <tfeder@wam.umd.edu>, cday@aip.org,
> paul elliott <pelliot@aip.acp.org>,
> barbara goss levi <bgl@worldnet.att.net>, bschwarz@aip.acp.org
>From: "Jean A. Kumagai" <jak@interport.net>
>Subject: Re: http
>Cc: goodwin@aip.acp.org, jschmidt@aip.acp.org,
> stephen benka <sbenka@aip.acp.org>, wkornber@aip.acp.org,
> Jean Kumagai <jak@interport.net>, gbl2@aip.org, jbarker@aip.acp.org
>
>I think the style committee should get together and discuss the http matter
>and whatever other style points are currently in dispute, and then issue a
>list of recommendations or proposed changes, which the editorial staff
>would then vote on.
>
>Jean

>Date: Mon, 20 Jul 1998 10:51:15 -0400
>From: "Irwin Goodwin" <goodwin@aip.acp.org>
>To: jak@interport.net
>Subject: Re: http -Reply
>Mime-Version: 1.0
>

>Jean,
> Style committee? What style committee? I didn't know we had one at
>Physics Today. Can you list the members of the committee? What the
>committee's mission is, and when its report is to be expected? The fact that
>a committee exists simply startles me. I thought Paul Elliot was to submit
>a style guide for all to comment upon. I guess my understanding is wrong.
> Irwin
>

>Date: Mon, 20 Jul 1998 11:48:50 -0400 (EDT)
>X-Sender: jak@pop.interport.net
>Mime-Version: 1.0
>To: "Irwin Goodwin" <goodwin@aip.acp.org>
>From: "Jean A. Kumagai" <jak@interport.net>
>Subject: style committee
>Cc: jak@interport.net
>

>Dear Irwin,
>

>At the last staff meeting back in February, a style committee was
>established and several people volunteered to be on it, including me, Jeff
>and Paul. I believe the committee was broadly charged with reviewing
>style issues, but no structure was established for how it should operate,
>when it should meet, what form its recommendations should take, etc. Such
>matters might have been clarified at a subsequent staff meeting, but of
>course we never had one. Which is probably why the committee has yet to
>convene.
>

>It's hard not to conclude that PT affairs remain moribund because certain
>people prefer things the way they are.
>
>Jean

S 000291

Received: from amsterdam.interport.net
([199.184.165.9])
by acpgate.acp.org; Mon, 20 Jul 1998 13:02:16 -0400
Received: from [207.237.105.152] (usrts6p74.port.net [207.237.109.74])
by amsterdam.interport.net (8.8.5/8.8.5) with ESMTP id NAA11442;
Mon, 20 Jul 1998 13:01:39 -0400 (EDT)
Date: Mon, 20 Jul 1998 13:01:39 -0400 (EDT)
X-Sender: jak@pop.interport.net
Message-Id: <v03110709bld8ef8890df@[207.237.105.152]>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
To: lugenbold@juno.com, jschmidt@aip.acp.org
From: "Jean A. Kumagai" <jak@interport.net>
Subject: style committee
Cc: jak@interport.net

S 000292

ESSAY

Scruffy Is Badge of Pride, but Some Physicists Long for Cool

By MALCOLM W. BROWNE

COPS carry badges, doctors wear stethoscopes, royalty wield fly whisks and scepters, and prominent citizens of France display the rosette of the Legion d'Honneur in their buttonholes.

Even scientists sometimes like to proclaim their occupations with visible symbols, although finding unobtrusive ways to display (and celebrate) one's calling is becoming harder with the passing years.

There was a time when scientists, technicians, architects and engineers carried slide rules protruding from their jacket pockets. Slide rules were useful for making rough-and-ready calculations, of course, but they were also emblems of professional identity. Using all the scales on a good slide rule required some knowledge of logarithms, algebra and trigonometry, and the mere possession of one of these elegant instruments (especially a top-of-the-line Keuffel & Esser) was thought by some to suggest intelligence and education.

But with the advent of electronic calculators, slide rules vanished, and no substitute icon of professional status was available. Plastic pocket protectors bulging with marking pens make rotten badges.

For physicists, however, there was another, albeit subtle, way to proclaim membership in a professional community that scorns conventional social images. Physicists often get into the habit of looking somewhat scruffy, and scruffiness in itself is a badge.

Many people have noticed that a hint of limited means characterizes meetings of physicists, as it did at an international conference of particle physicists in Japan last month. A handful of university department chairmen wearing jackets and ties generally turn up at such gatherings, but for most of the other participants, the dress is faded jeans, sneakers or climbing boots, sport shirts (frequently worn under backpacks stuffed with papers and books) and sometimes, baseball caps.

Caps emblazoned with the logo of the John Deere tractor maker are sometimes seen around physics meetings these days, although the most famous of physicists' headgear was Dr. J. Robert Oppenheimer's trademark pork-



Daniel Vasconcelos

pig hat, worn while he was director of Los Alamos National Laboratory developing the first atomic bombs.

The impoverished look of many physicists, particularly young ones, is not merely an affliction. Good jobs in physics — the kind that lead to university tenure — are few, and scientists living on post-doctoral fellowships often have trouble making ends meet. The cost of travel to a physics conference leaves little money for frills, and casual style is not merely an expression of Caltech physics chic; it is dictated by very tight budgets.

But the simple attire favored by many physicists has come under assault. In a letter published this month by the magazine *Physics Today*, Dr. Jeremy Levy of the University of Pittsburgh has called upon colleagues to clean up their act, not only by modernizing the conference gadgetry used at their meetings but by dressing to look like influential citizens.

white coat is part of the professional image." Dr. Levy deplored a perceived shortage at physics meetings of Internet facilities, laser pointers, liquid-crystal projection displays and other up-to-date devices, saying that these deficits have a negative effect on the public image of physicists. "We have discovered and invented so many wonderful things, yet we look and act like losers," he wrote.

But style critics like Dr. Levy overlook an important aspect of professional shabbiness: attire. It has become a part of the scientist's public persona.

Nearly a century ago Arthur Conan Doyle, medical doctor who avidly followed developments in science, endowed one of his fictional characters, Professor Summerlee in "The Lost World," with a stereotypical image that still resonates. "Among his minor peculiarities," Doyle wrote of Professor Summerlee, "are that he is careless as to his attire," and "unclean in his person."

This was hardly true of famous physicists in the early part of the 20th century, at least when they posed for photographs. Lord Rutherford, Niels Bohr, Wolfgang Pauli and other giants of the profession appear impeccably tailored. Even Albert Einstein in early photographs is dressed in dark suits with starched wing collars and a watch chain.

But fashion changed.

In Einstein's later life the world began to see the tousle-haired creator of relativity theory wearing a sweatshirt, pedaling a bicycle or roguishly sticking out his tongue.

Dr. Levy's admonition to physicists to dress better is likely to have a mixed reception.

Physicists, having spent as many years pursuing an education and an apprenticeship as have medical doctors, often find themselves with ill-paid jobs and lacking the prestige society accords to healers.

Most people have no idea what physicists do and their public image, physicists acknowledge, needs polishing. But physics is a kind of priesthood, in which a semblance of poverty is more a badge of pride than a dishonor.

"I don't pay much attention to clothes," a young experimenter remarked, "but I'd look silly wearing a suit at a physics meeting, even if I had room for one in my suitcase. I guess we care more about substance than image."

"For too long," Dr. Levy wrote, "we have neglected our own shabby appearance, all the time wondering why enrollment in our discipline is dropping. We need to educate the public about the significance, the importance and the fascination of fundamental and applied physics research. And we need to look cool doing it."

Dr. Levy is not alone in this view. In his book on the art of oral scientific presentation, "Dazzle 'Em With Style," Dr. Robert R. H. Anholt of Duke University's Medical Center wrote that proper attire is as important for job applicants in the sciences and speakers at scientific meetings as white coats are for doctors making their rounds.

"Although most physicians do not need to wear a white coat unless they are in the habit of frequently spilling their coffee," he wrote, "many patients would feel uncomfortable if the attending physician did not wear one. The

From - Wed Jul 22 21:38:51 1998
Received: from plano.sff.net (plano.greynware.com [207.55.146.51])
by po2.wam.umd.edu (8.9.0.Beta6/8.9.0.Beta6) with SMTP id
QAA29505;
Wed, 22 Jul 1998 16:13:28 -0400 (EDT)
Received: from GPC (unverified [199.174.252.231]) by plano.sff.net
(EMWAC SMTPRS 0.83) with SMTP id <B0000626094@plano.sff.net>;
Wed, 22 Jul 1998 15:11:38 -0500
Message-Id: <1.5.4.16.19980722201244.2dffa02@pop.sff.net>
X-Sender: gpc@pop.sff.net (Unverified)
X-Mailer: Windows Eudora Light Version 1.5.4 (16)
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Date: Wed, 22 Jul 1998 16:12:44 -0400
To: jak@interport.net, jeff@wam.umd.edu, tfeder@wam.umd.edu,
lugenbold@juno.com
From: "Graham P. Collins" <gpc@sff.net>
Subject: AIP profiteering
Status:
X-Mozilla-Status: 0001
Content-Length: 577

I see there's an item in the July 17 Science about the Russians maybe taking some of the translation journals away from AIP. Seems they are unhappy with AIP's price gouging (I paraphrase liberally). Brodsky is quoted saying that AIP is a not-for-profit, implying the Russians are better off with AIP than with a commercial concern.

Sheesh... how often did I hear Brodsky talk of the Russian translation journals solely in terms of their function as a major (=the= major?) revenue source for AIP?

'Tis tempting to become a Lawrence Cranberg Wannabe.

-- Graham

S 000294

From: Jeff Schmidt
To: PELLLOT, TFEDER, i:jak@interport.net
Date: 28 Jul 1998 (Tue) 0:06
Subject: Comment re 50th Anniversary Issue -Reply

Hi Paul,

Yes, the advertisements by Nagamani would have been worth mentioning in the 50th anniversary issue, because the magazine made a conscious decision to accept those ads. It did so in the name of free speech, but I don't think it was because of the Bill of Rights. I think it was because someone was once murdered at AIP headquarters in New York City after APS refused to allow someone to present a paper at a physics conference. Ever since then, the rules about who can present papers have favored free speech.

Jeff

CC: JSCHMIDT

S 000295

From: Paul Elliott (Paul Elliot)
To: sbenka,cday,I:tfeder@wam.umd.edu,goodwin,charris,w...
Date: 27 Jul 1998 (Mon) 23:35
Subject: Comment re 50th Anniversary Issue

>>> Paul Elliott (Paul Elliot) 07/27/98 11:31pm >>>
Dear Loren Lockwood:

Thanks for your July 12 comment, which I'll circulate among my colleagues. And no, we won't treat it as a letter to the editor.

Sincerely,

Paul Elliott
Letters Editor

>>> "Loren Lockwood" <lockwood@sucre.udo.edu.ve> 07/12/98 05:11pm >>>
You forgot to mention the fascinating series by Dasara Nagamani which enlivened the Miscellaneous section of Information Exchange over a number of years.

Affiliation: Universidad de Oriente (is that what you mean by affiliation?)
Mailing address: Apartado Postal 198, Cumaná, Sucre, Venezuela
Daytime phone number: +58 93 511818 (in Spanish if I don't answer)

Hey, this letter is obviously NOT for publication!

S 000296

From: Jeff Schmidt
To: SBENKA
Date: 25 Jul 1998 (Sat) 14:47
Subject: Physics Update candidates for Sept -Reply

Steve --

Here are my rankings of the update candidates.

-- Jeff

4. ACOUSTIC SURGERY
5. A NEW FORM OF SOLID CARBON
7. SUPERFLUIDITY WITH ONLY 60 ATOMS
6. NEW REASONS TO SEARCH FOR EXTRA DIMENSIONS
8. HEAVY-FERMION SUPERCONDUCTIVITY
3. A SUN-EARTH CONNECTION EVENT
2. THE PERSISTENCE OF WEATHER
1. THE EFFECT OF LOW-FREQUENCY ELECTRIC FIELDS ON HUMAN CELLS

CC: jschmidt

S 000297

From: "Adrian Parsegian" <VAP@CU.NIH.GOV>
To: "Jeff Schmidt" <jschmidt@aip.acp.org>
Date: 14 Jul 1998 (Tue) 12:41
Subject: Hubris, still

HI JEFF -

STRICTLY FYI.

I'M AMAZED HOW MUCH CORRESPONDENCE
STILL COMES IN ABOUT THE HUBRIS PIECE.
THESE TWO INQUIRIES WERE IN MY E-BOX
JUST THIS MORNING. THERE'S HUGE
POTENTIAL FOR NEW WORK BUILT ON ALL THIS
INTEREST.

AND THE FUNNIEST PART IS THAT
ANOTHER MESSAGE IN THE E-MAIL BOX WAS AN
INVITATION FROM BOB AUSTIN TO SPEAK AT A
VERY SELECT BIOLOGICAL PHYSICS MEETING.

BEST..

ADRIAN

Dear Dr. Adhya,

Thank you so much for taking the trouble to write to me. I am pleased
to learn that you found the Hubris article and discussion worth reading.

I will gather reprints to send to you by regular mail.

Regarding work here, we have no openings at the moment because of
lab-space limitations. However, I have copied your letter and printed it
out to pass around. In particular, I have given it to Dr. Ralph Nossal
who is also a Chief of a laboratory in the Child Health Institute. Their
work is somewhat closer to what you have done than what goes on with us.
I will also send this material to another CH Chief, Dr. Joshua Zimmerberg
who might know of possibilities.

Kind regards,

Adrian P.

FROM stmstkrd@iacs.ernet.in TUESDAY 07/14/1998 3:37:34 A.M.
From: Group Members of T K Rai Dastidar <stmstkrd@iacs.ernet.in>

To Prof. V. Adrian Parsegian

From Dr. Lipika Adhya.

Dear Prof. Parsegian,

I came across an article "Harness the Hubris: Useful things
Physics could do in Biology" in Physics Today-July'97 edition and its
continued debate in the same journal-December'97 edition. The different points
raised by different physicists and biophysicists about the contribution they
can make by the application of physics to biology intrigued my imagination. I
always had and still have a latent urge of understanding the role of physics
in daily life (which was the only reason for my love for physics- ever since I
came in contact with this subject from my childhood). Then, when I came in
close contact with molecular biologist and biochemist (my husband is an
eminent molecular biologist in his arena), I just couldn't stop thinking why
physics cannot be applied in understanding the physical behaviour of animal
kingdom better.

Now, going through the discussions, I found my question
answered. I have a strong urge of exploring new frontiers that interested me. I
always wanted to do something for the benefit of the mankind. I don't mind
taking a few courses to train myself on the process. I would appreciate if you
send some reprints of your latest work, which might guide me and give me a
better idea. If vacancy permits and if given an opportunity, I would be happy
to be a part of your group and prove myself.

A brief about me. I have completed my accelerated-BA/MA
(physics-major, maths-minor) from Hunter College, City University of New York,
with a honour of Magna Cum Laude and GPA-3.65. I have completed my PhD degree
in May'97 from Jadavpur University under the guidance of Dr. Rai Dastidar of
Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science, Jadavpur, Calcutta. The
title of my thesis is "Theoretical Study of Lasing without population
inversion". My publications are given below. The study of this type of
inversionless laser is absolutely a new frontier and have started only a few
decades ago. The experimentalists have succeeded in proving the feasibility of
this theory and would soon bring this laser out of the lab for the use of the
mankind. In contrast to the conventional laser, since this lasing does not
require an inversion in the population in between the lasing levels, by this

S 000298

process, a high frequency, inexpensive laser could be available.

Theoretically, we have shown the feasibility of this inversionless lasing in Hydrogen molecules and have taken the credit of being the first to do so (as molecules, having complicated energy level structures, most of the physicists opted to study the inversionless lasing in atoms than in molecules). In India, apart from our group, there is only one other group lead by an eminent physicist Prof. G.S.Agarwal working on this field.

It would be my pleasure to furnish you with any details, which you might require to proceed further. I will be glad to hear from you as soon as possible.

Thanking you,

Yours sincerely,

Lipika Adhya.

Publications:

1. L.Adhya and K.Rai Dastidar, Nuovo Cimento D, 14, (1992), 643.
2. S.Sanyal, L.Adhya and K.RaiDastidar, Phys.Rev.A,49, (1994), 5135
3. L.Adhya and K.RaiDastidar, Phys.Rev.A, 50,(1994), 3537.
4. L.Adhya, S.Sanyal and K.RaiDastidar, Phys.Rev.A,52,(1995), 4078.
5. L.Adhya, S.Sanyal and K.RaiDastidar, Nuovo Cimento D,(1998), (to be published).

Dear Nicki,

Thanks for your e-mail re Hubris and physics in biology. The interface between minerals and biomaterials is one of the most promising areas in which to work. One project on which I am still only thinking about starting is adhesion to the titanium oxide surfaces used in dental implants.

Probably because I have never been very good at taking advice, I hesitate to give specific advice. In your case you seem already to be on a good track. Rather than list suggestions for projects, I suggest that at AEA you work with a material in which they have some experience but which you can treat in a new way. A computer simulation of an artificial surface that touches part of a protein? Some experiments looking at adhesion of various small solutes to popular implant material? There are lots of possibilities.

There is an excellent scientist, Dr. Stephen Mann, at the University of Bath. I talked with him at a recent Gordon Conference and found him to be stimulating, imaginative, and knowledgeable. Why not go down to meet him one afternoon?

I'll be interested to learn how things turn out.

All the best.

Adrian

FROM n.richmond@UCL.ac.uk TUESDAY 07/14/1998 9:08:20 A.M.

subject: Biomaterials

Dear Adrian

I hope you don't mind the email, but I have a comment about your article in Physics Today last year, regarding physicists and biology problems. If I first just give you an idea what I'm doing - I'm a PhD student at University College London in the Geological Sciences Department. My field of study is the computer simulation of inner Earth materials with the aim to improve our understanding of defect properties and such like. Last year it became possible to work in another department at UCL for 12 months, and this has lead me to work in the Physics Department with Prof Marshall Stoneham on a problem concerned with the computer simulation of biomaterials. I have mainly been looking at apatites and phosphate glasses with the ultimate aims to address some questions in dental material research.

In applying for the extra years funding and the decision to work in the Physics Department on biomaterials I was very much affected by your article. Prior to reading it I was aware of the applications of physics techniques in biology but I had been unsure whether physicists, lacking a background in biology, could be of use in addressing biology questions.

S 000299

However, in the last few months since working on biomaterials it is, of course, very clear that a physics background can greatly aid in understanding bio-problems and that the pooling of results obtained by physicists and biologists is much more productive than just looking at the problem from one angle. And as far as your article is concerned, my thanks for promoting what is clearly an important under-researched area, and an area in which I see myself working in the future.

But I do have a bit of an open ended question, on which I would greatly value your input, as someone with much more experience in this field than I have. In your article you made references to the very large number of projects you could easily suggest that physicists could address in biology. I have been offered the chance (funding permitting) to work at a company called AEA Technologies for two months this summer and I have been invited to suggest possible projects I would like to work on. I can think of a number of possibilities related to biomaterials such as phosphates, but I would be very interested to hear what you as a physicist/biophysicist see as the most important areas in need of research.

Any advice on this you have I would much appreciate and, either way, thanks again for your article in Physics Today for the motivation it gave me to begin work in this very important and interesting area.

Nicki

Nicola C. Richmond
n.richmond@ucl.ac.uk

Mineral Physics Unit
Department of Geological Sciences
Kathleen Lonsdale Building
University College London
Gower Street
London
WC1E 6BT
Tel - 0171 380 7084 ext. 2828

S 000300

Received: from CU.NIH.GOV
([128.231.160.111])
by acpgate.acp.org; Tue, 14 Jul 1998 12:41:12 -0400
To: "Jeff Schmidt" <jschmidt@aip.acp.org>
From: "Adrian Parsegian" <VAP@CU.NIH.GOV>
Date: Tue, 14 Jul 1998 12:38:50 -0400 (EDT)
Subject: Hubris, still

S 000301

From: "Paul Elliott (Paul Elliot)" <pelliot@aip.acp.org>
To: ACP.AIP(CHARRIS,SBENKA,GLUBKIN),AIP_NY.AIPGate("bg...
Date: 9 Apr 1998 (Thu) 19:30
Subject: gatefold captions -Reply

I have been here (College Park) today, and I'll be here tomorrow, and I am open to making suggestions--if needed--regarding form and style of gatefold copy. To do that usefully, though, I really need to see the layout. Has it been completed?

Paul

>>> Barbara Levi <bgl@worldnet.att.net> 04/08/98 11:31am >>>
Since Paul will not be in the office the next few days, is there someone to tell us the format for writing captions for the gatefold? Will we follow the same format as we did for the excerpts? Should they be more meaty or more sparse?

Also, I notice that our "blurbs" go on a page with nothing else. I had written a fairly short blurb. Should I expand mine? Can we have an idea of the length so that all the blurbs look alike at least in length?

Finally, when we will be told of the final selection of illustrations for the gatefold so that we can start on the captions?

Barbara

--

Barbara G. Levi bgl@worldnet.att.net
Senior Editor 805 965 3483 (tel)
Physics Today 805 963 2574 (fax)

CC: ACP.AIP(BSCHWARZ,CLUCAS,EPLOTKIN,RWEHRENB,WKORNBER...

S 000302

Received: from ACP-Message_Server by acpgate.acp.org
with Novell_GroupWise; Thu, 09 Apr 1998 19:31:55 -0400
Message-Id: <s52d222b.037@acpgate.acp.org>
X-Mailer: Novell GroupWise 5.2
Date: Thu, 09 Apr 1998 19:30:46 -0400
From: "Paul Elliott (Paul Elliot)" <pelliot@aip.acp.org>
To: charris@aip.acp.org, sbenka@aip.acp.org, gbl2@aip.org,
bgl@worldnet.att.net
Cc: bschwarz@aip.acp.org, clucas@aip.acp.org, eplotkin@aip.acp.org,
goodwin@aip.acp.org, rwehrenb@aip.acp.org, tfeder@aip.acp.org,
wkornber@aip.acp.org, cday@aip.org, gcollins@aip.org, jbarker@aip.org,
jschmidt@aip.org, jak@interport.net
Subject: gatefold captions -Reply
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable
Content-Disposition: inline

S 000303

From: "Graham Collins" <gcollins@aip.org>
To: ACP.AIP(CHARRIS,SBENKA,GLUBKIN),AIP_NY.AIPGate("bg...
Date: 13 Apr 1998 (Mon) 11:28
Subject: gatefold captions -Reply

These were very good questions that you sent around last Wednesday, Barbara. Some have now been answered by our receipt of near-final gatefolds in the office a few minutes ago. However, the questions relating to the blurbs still need answers.

-- Graham

>>> Barbara Levi <bgl@worldnet.att.net> 04/08/98 11:31am >>>
Since Paul will not be in the office the next few days, is there someone to tell us the format for writing captions for the gatefold? Will we follow the same format as we did for the excerpts? Should they be more meaty or more sparse?

Also, I notice that our "blurbs" go on a page with nothing else. I had written a fairly short blurb. Should I expand mine? Can we have an idea of the length so that all the blurbs look alike at least in length?

Finally, when we will be told of the final selection of illustrations for the gatefold so that we can start on the captions?

Barbara

--

Barbara G. Levi bgl@worldnet.att.net
Senior Editor 805 965 3483 (tel)
Physics Today 805 963 2574 (fax)

CC: ACP.AIP(BSCHWARZ,CLUCAS,EPLOTKIN,PELLIOT,RWEHRENB,...

S 000304

Received: from ACP-Message_Server by acpgate.acp.org
with Novell_GroupWise; Mon, 13 Apr 1998 11:29:42 -0400
Message-Id: <s531f726.028@acpgate.acp.org>
X-Mailer: Novell GroupWise 5.2
Date: Mon, 13 Apr 1998 11:28:22 -0400
From: "Graham Collins" <gcollins@aip.org>
To: charris@aip.acp.org, sbenka@aip.acp.org, gbl2@aip.org,
bgl@worldnet.att.net
Cc: bschwarz@aip.acp.org, clucas@aip.acp.org, eplotkin@aip.acp.org,
goodwin@aip.acp.org, pelliot@aip.acp.org, rwehrenb@aip.acp.org,
tfeder@aip.acp.org, wkornber@aip.acp.org, cday@aip.org,
jbarker@aip.org, jschmidt@aip.org, jak@interport.net
Subject: gatefold captions -Reply
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable
Content-Disposition: inline

S 000305

From: Graham Collins
To: TFEDER, i:interport.net:jak, i:worldnet.att.net:bg...
Date: 13 Apr 1998 (Mon) 12:26
Subject: blurb improvement

Those of you who had high praise for the draft 1978-88 gatefold blurb will, I'm sure, enjoy this "improved" version even more:

The Superconducting Super Collider, Super Gravity, Superman and the Super Soaring National Debt.

As computers become smaller and more powerful, their use broadens out across many fields, from outer space to internal medicine. While the top quark remains at large, the W and Z boson are discovered at the CERN lab and the B meson reveals bare bottom at Cornell. A star dies in the first naked-eye supernova in 383 years, Challenger explodes, Chernobyl blows, SDI launches and supersymmetry and gravity join the other theories on the superstring bandwagon.

CC: JSCHMIDT

S 000306

From: Gloria Lubkin
To: PTall
Date: 13 Apr 1998 (Mon) 14:38
Subject: My draft of the 1948-1958 gatefold intro

Here's a somewhat long-winded first draft for the 1948-1958 gatefold intro. Your comments are welcome.

When physicists enthusiastically returned to their benches after the end of World War II, they began to exploit new knowledge and new tools gained from work on radar and nuclear weapons. Another effective new tool, this one for communication among physicists, was founded by the American Institute of Physics in 1948. During its first decade *Physics Today*, the physicists' magazine, covered the discovery of nuclear magnetic resonance, the announcement of the transistor, development of semiconductors and electronics, quantum electrodynamics, the new digital computers, the nuclear shell model, the discovery of the pion and strange particles, and parity nonconservation. At the same time new labs and new funding patterns were being established, many were concerned with physics education and the perceived shortage of physicists, and as the Cold War developed, national security was a major issue.

CC: glubkin

S 000307

From: Graham Collins
To: BSCHWARZ, CDAY, CHARRIS, GLUBKIN, SBENKA, ACPgate....
Date: 13 Apr 1998 (Mon) 15:53
Subject: photo captions -Reply

And here is my first shot at gatefold captions. Some of these are very similar or identical to Northlight's (being essentially parts of the original magazine captions).

It seems my approach has been much more specific than Barbara's. I have captioned the image, she has captioned what the image represents for the decade?

-- Graham

1: Tactical nuclear weapons on parade through Moscow's Red Square. Wolfgang Panofsky discussed the role of science and technology in the arms race in his June 1981 article.

2: (Challenger) No caption needed -- the caption reproduced with the image says it.

Or: From Irwin Goodwin's August 1986 report on the Challenger commission's report.

3: East German physicist Alfred Zehe was arrested by the FBI at an American Vacuum Society meeting in Boston in 1983 and charged with espionage.

4: Vesicles formed in water from lipid-bilayer membranes. Such membranes, carrying complex enzyme systems, are the "ultimate in microelectronics," as discussed by Britton Chance et al. in an October 1980 article.

5: Grand jeté performed by Jennifer Davis of the Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre. The floating illusion was analyzed in Kenneth Laws's February 1985 article, 'The Physics of Dance.'

6: A "Woodstock for physics" is how some hailed the session on high-temperature superconductivity that took place on 18-19 March 1987 in New York at the American Physical Society's March meeting.

7: Supernova 1987a (bright star in lower right corner) ended a four-century-long vigil and started the new field of neutrino astronomy on 23 February 1987, as discussed in David Helfand's August 1987 article.

8: Chernobyl's fallout: Dose of iodine-131 accumulated from 26 April to 1 May 1986 by adult thyroid glands, estimated by calculations done at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory.

9: An accident on the Brooklyn-Queens Expressway in New York City in 1985. Arthur Damask's March 1987 article discussed the analysis of such accidents.

10: Students at a computer terminal at the Educational Technology Center, University of California, Irvine, using an instructional program to see how orbits vary depending on the initial conditions. From Alfred Bork's September 1981 article, 'Computer-Based Instruction in Physics.'

CC: JSCHMIDT

S 000308

From: Charles Day
To: ACP.ACPgate("bgl@worldnet.att.net"), ACP.AIP(BSCHW...
Date: 13 Apr 1998 (Mon) 16:01
Subject: photo captions -Reply -Reply

. . . And here are my captions, which don't explicitly identify where the figures come from.

Chas

FROM LEFT TO RIGHT

[Helium fountain]
Helium fountain illustrating Russell Donnelly's July 1995 article that compared the discoveries of superfluidity and superconductivity.

[Cover: The Physics of Baseball] - No caption needed

[Feynman photo]
Eight articles and three shorter pieces appeared in our February 1989 special issue devoted to the life and career of Richard Feynman.

[Cover: New Solar Neutrino Detector] - No caption needed]

[Graph of nuclear weapons expenditure] - If, when reproduced at full size, all the words and numbers are legible, then no caption is needed. If not, then the figure should be replaced with the photograph from the cover of March 1991, in which case the caption should read as follows:
The 10-meter Keck Telescope under construction in 1990.

[Light-harvesting molecule]
Structure of the light-harvesting complex II of the purple bacterium *Rs. molischianum*, as it appeared on the cover of the August 1997 issue.

[Semiconductor diode laser] A wide-bandgap II-IV semiconductor diode laser emitting a beam of blue-green light.

[Stars and Stripes]
Charge ordering in a $\text{La}_{0.33}\text{Ca}_{0.67}\text{MnO}_3$ lattice, as revealed by a low-temperature, high-resolution electron micrograph made by Cheng Hsuan Chen and Sang-Wook Cheong of Bell Laboratories, Lucent Technologies.

[Cover: Exploratorium]
Exhibit at the Exploratorium in San Francisco demonstrating that white light consists of a mixture of colors.

[Sakharov] - Leave caption unchanged

[HiQ advert] Please replace the HiQ ad with the Keck cover photo from March 1991 if it's not used to replace the graph of nuclear weapons expenditure. (See above). If Keck does replace the graph, then use either of the following.

Figure 1 on page 54 of the June 1991 issue. Note that the orientation of picture doesn't matter - that is, you can rotate it how you like. Nor does it have to be used in its entirety - that is, you can crop it how you like. The caption should be as follows.

Superconducting $\text{Bi}_2\text{Sr}_2\text{CaCu}_2\text{O}_x$, as seen with differential interference contrast microscopy.

Figure 1 on page 75 of the June 1991 issue. Its caption should be:

S 000309

A single crystal of the high-temperature
superconducting compound $\text{YBa}_2\text{Cu}_3\text{O}_{7-x}$ grown by Debra
Kaiser at the National Institute of Standards and
Technology.

CC: ACP.AIP(JSCHMIDT),

S 000310

From: toni feder <tfeder@wam.umd.edu>
To: ACP.AIP(JSCHMIDT)
Date: 1 Apr 1998 (Wed) 13:28
Subject: question

Hi Jeff,

I'm wondering how much stuff you saw on or related to McCarthyism in PT? Can you give me a synopsis of the type of coverage? I'm writing about R. Davis at the moment, the editor at that time, and want to check whether his recollections jibe with what was actually published. Briefly, he said he covered the period "quite fully."

I hear you got a less-than-good enough review. Sorry about that! How do you plan to respond? This latest with your decade doesn't sound good either....

Thanks!
Toni

S 000311

Received: from po4.wam.umd.edu
([128.8.10.166])
by acpgate.acp.org; Wed, 01 Apr 1998 13:29:21 -0500
Received: from rac8.wam.umd.edu (tfeder@rac8.wam.umd.edu [128.8.10.148])
by po4.wam.umd.edu (8.9.0.Beta2/8.9.0.Beta2) with ESMTP id NAA28206
for <jschmidt@aip.acp.org>; Wed, 1 Apr 1998 13:28:36 -0500 (EST)
Received: from localhost by rac8.wam.umd.edu (8.9.0.Beta2/8.8.7) with SMTP id NAA13395
for <jschmidt@aip.acp.org>; Wed, 1 Apr 1998 13:28:34 -0500 (EST)
X-Authentication-Warning: rac8.wam.umd.edu: tfeder owned process doing -bs
Date: Wed, 1 Apr 1998 13:28:34 -0500 (EST)
From: toni feder <tfeder@wam.umd.edu>
To: jschmidt@aip.acp.org
Subject: question
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.95q.980401132649.12912A-100000@rac8.wam.umd.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

S 000312

From: Paul Elliott (Paul Elliot)
To: jschmidt
Date: 31 Mar 1998 (Tue) 22:21
Subject: Letter to Review

Jeff,

We have received yet another letter about the Goldstein article. I have left it on your desk, and would like to have it back, reviewed, by April 8. Desk and date okay? If not, let me know, please.

Paul

S 000313

From: "Jean A. Kumagai" <jak@interport.net>
To: ACP.AIP(JSCHMIDT)
Date: 16 Mar 1998 (Mon) 15:33
Subject: FYI

Here's what I spent the morning working on...seems like everything worked out in the end.

>Date: Sun, 15 Mar 1998 21:29:42 -0500
>From: "Stephen Benka" <sbenka@aip.acp.org>
>To: tfeder@aip.acp.org, jak@interport.net
>Subject: Article on dual careers in PT -Forwarded
>Mime-Version: 1.0
>
>Toni, Jean,
>
>This came from Barrie Ripin, who is miffed that no mention of APS was made
>in the March brief (p 81) on the two-body problem. I'd like your input on
>how I should respond to him.
>
>Thanks.
>--Steve
>Date: Fri, 13 Mar 1998 14:00:54 -0500
>From: "Barrett Ripin" <ripin@aps.org>
>To: sbenka@aip.acp.org
>Cc: charris@aip.acp.org, brodsky@aip.org, jstith@aip.org, franz@aps.org,
> mcilrath@aps.org, brichter@slac.stanford.edu
>Subject: Article on dual careers in PT
>Mime-Version: 1.0
>Content-Type: multipart/mixed; boundary="=_CF9BFB11.9AFB97E7"
>
>Steve,
>I want to bring to your attention to the report in March PT that describes
>a dual career survey (see attached note from Laurie McNeil). There was no
>mention that this was an APS activity in the article.
> You may recall that I was similarly piqued that a recent article on
>careers published not too long ago also omitted any reference to similar
>activities in the APS. Recently, we did a survey of our young members on
>their perceptions of the career situation, see February APS News, that
>yielded some noteworthy results (or at least AAAS Science magazine, Feb.
>20, pg 1128, thought so). I took pains to alert PT staff members to this
>in early January, yet I have not seen any mention of it in the pages of PT.
> While you have the editorial prerogative to print what you like, I am
>concerned that newsworthy activities of the APS are being overlooked.
>Barrie
>
>
>Received: from aps.org
> ([149.28.112.5])
> by acpgate.acp.org; Fri, 13 Mar 1998 12:49:31 -0500
>Received: from augustus0.physics.unc.edu by aps.org (8.6.12/1.35)
> id RAA23049; Fri, 13 Mar 1998 17:46:41 GMT
>Received: from julian (julian.physics.unc.edu [152.2.65.226]) by
>augustus0.physics.unc.edu (8.7.6/8.7.3) with ESMTP id MAA16098; Fri, 13
>Mar 1998 12:46:59 -0500 (EST)
>Received: from localhost (mcneil@localhost) by julian (SMI-8.6/8.7.3) with
>SMTP id MAA19920; Fri, 13 Mar 1998 12:48:37 -0500
>Date: Fri, 13 Mar 1998 12:48:37 -0500 (EST)
>From: "Laurie E. McNeil" <mcneil@physics.unc.edu>
>To: Barrett Ripin <ripin@aps.org>
>Cc: tara@aps.org
>Subject: Re: Survey
>In-Reply-To: <s5090fdd.070@acpgate.acp.org>
>Message-ID: <Pine.GSO.3.96.980313124743.19918A-100000@julian.physics.unc.edu>
>Mime-Version: 1.0
>Content-Type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
>Content-Disposition: inline
>
>
>It was done upon my initiative and that of Marc Sher, with endorsement and
>financial support from CSWP and the blessing of FPS. Why that didn't get
>into PT I don't know. --Laurie

S 000314

>
>On Fri, 13 Mar 1998, Barrett Ripin wrote:
>
>> Laurie,
>> A quick question. Was the survey of dual careers done under the auspices
>>of CSWP, or privately. I am curious, since we billed it as a CSWP
>>initiative in March APS News, while Physics Today, on page 81 of its
>>March issue, does not mention APS or CSWP at all.
>> Regards,
>> Barrie
>>
>>

>Date: Mon, 16 Mar 1998 14:40:54 -0500 (EST)
>X-Sender: jak@pop.interport.net
>Mime-Version: 1.0
>To: sbenka@aip.acp.org
>From: "Jean A. Kumagai" <jak@interport.net>
>Subject: response to BR
>Cc: jak@interport.net
>
>Steve,
>
>I suggest that we (you) should respond to Barrie with something like the
>following:
>
>=====
>Dear Barrie,
>
>We regret not mentioning APS in the March brief on the dual-career survey,
>and we will run a correction in the June issue. We do plan to report on
>the results of the survey once those become available, and we will make
>sure to mention APS's role at that time.
>
>Steve
>=====

>
>Just between you and me (and Toni -- she and I discussed the matter, and
>this message reflects the thoughts of both of us), I think it's important
>that we not fuel Barrie's wrath but also that we not buy into his version
>of events. He seems to be attempting to establish a pattern of Physics
>Today's neglect in covering APS activities, when that is simply not true.
>In the November issue, for example, we mentioned APS's role in setting up
>the Contributions of 20th Century Women to Physics web site as well as the
>APS Congressional science fellows. In the February issue, we cited APS's
>sponsorship of the Minority Physicist Archive and the Campaign for Physics.
>And in the March issue, we ran the brief on APS's electronic niche
>journals; also, Toni's story on the California science standards quotes
>Ramon Lopez, the APS education and outreach director. And of course we
>routinely cover APS elections, prizes and meeting previews. (Indeed, one
>could ask why we never got a "thank you" for any of this coverage.)
>
>As for the two-body brief, when I interviewed Laurie McNeil, she told me
>that the survey was being undertaken at her and Marc Sher's initiative;
>this would seem to be confirmed by the fact that the survey form is located
>on the homepage of the College of William and Mary physics department
>(where Sher works), not on the APS web site, and that it does not mention
>APS sponsorship. When I sent the draft of the brief to McNeil before
>publication, she indicated several items she wanted changed, but did not
>ask that APS be mentioned. And, as noted above, we will have the
>opportunity to mention the APS connection when we report on the survey
>results.
>
>You and I have already discussed the job market perceptions survey, so I
>will simply repeat that nobody I spoke to mentioned the existence of such a
>survey when I was preparing the story that ran in January. (This is apart
>from the fact that the survey dealt with the academic job market, while my
>story dealt with the non-academic job market.) I do plan to mention the
>survey in a longer piece I'll be writing on employment and enrollments.
>
>It's worth noting that Barrie himself is doing very little to foster a
>smooth relationship between PT and APS. It would have been far more

S 000315

>collegial had he expressed his concerns just to us; instead, by copying the
>message to Brodsky, Stith and Richter, he is escalating the situation
>needlessly. And, for example, when Toni and I recently learned of an
>APS-sponsored gathering on physics careers, Toni asked to attend, in the
>hopes that the workshop would provide useful background and would show our
>interest in APS activities. Barrie, however, said No, because, he said, he
>did not want to set a precedent for having journalists attend "closed"
>meetings. But there were clearly portions of the daylong event -- such as
>a presentation by Francis Slakey of Georgetown U. on "Creating an
>Industrial Leadership Degree" -- that would not have been compromised (and
>probably would have been enhanced) by Toni's presence.
>
>Both Toni and I recognize the importance of providing coverage of the
>activities of AIP and its member societies. And we feel that, on balance,
>Physics Today does an excellent job in that regard.
>
>Jean

>Date: Mon, 16 Mar 1998 15:03:44 -0500
>From: "Stephen Benka" <sbenka@aip.acp.org>
>To: ripin@aps.org
>Cc: charris@aip.acp.org, tfeder@aip.acp.org, brodsky@aip.org, jstith@aip.org,
> franz@aps.org, mcilrath@aps.org, jak@interport.net,
> mcneil@physics.unc.edu, brichter@slac.stanford.edu
>Subject: Article on dual careers in PT -Reply
>Mime-Version: 1.0
>X-MIME-Autoconverted: from quoted-printable to 8bit by mx.interport.net id
>PAA00718
>
>Dear Barrie,
>
>We regret our oversight in not mentioning APS in the March brief on the
>dual-career survey, and we will run a correction in the June issue. We do
>plan to report on the results of the survey once those become available,
>and we will make sure to mention APS's role at that time.
>
>Steve

S 000316

Received: from amsterdam.interport.net
([199.184.165.9])
by acpgate.acp.org; Mon, 16 Mar 1998 15:34:46 -0500
Received: from [207.237.105.133] (usrts2p142.port.net [207.237.105.142])
by amsterdam.interport.net (8.8.5/8.8.5) with ESMTP id PAA05406;
Mon, 16 Mar 1998 15:33:28 -0500 (EST)
Date: Mon, 16 Mar 1998 15:33:28 -0500 (EST)
X-Sender: jak@pop.interport.net
Message-Id: <v03110703b132f752d51f@[207.237.105.133]>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
To: jschmidt@aip.acp.org
From: "Jean A. Kumagai" <jak@interport.net>
Subject: FYI
Cc: jak@interport.net

S 000317

From: "Stephen Benka" <sbenka@aip.acp.org>
To: ACP.AIP(BSCHWARZ,CHARRIS,CLUCAS,EPLOTKIN,PELLIOT,R...
Date: 30 Mar 1998 (Mon) 16:43
Subject: decadal blurb -Reply

I have forwarded Barbara's and Chas's blurbs to Northlight. Barbara also had an extensive list of potential images for her gatefold. Please send me the remaining blurbs (and image suggestions if you have them).

Thanks.

--Steve

S 000318

Received: from ACP-Message_Server by acpgate.acp.org
with Novell_GroupWise; Mon, 30 Mar 1998 16:45:53 -0500
Message-Id: <s51fcc41.016@acpgate.acp.org>
X-Mailer: Novell GroupWise 5.2
Date: Mon, 30 Mar 1998 16:43:37 -0500
From: "Stephen Benka" <sbenka@aip.acp.org>
To: bschwarz@aip.acp.org, charris@aip.acp.org, clucas@aip.acp.org,
eplotkin@aip.acp.org, goodwin@aip.acp.org, pelliot@aip.acp.org,
rwehrenb@aip.acp.org, tfeder@aip.acp.org, wkornber@aip.acp.org,
cday@aip.org, gbl2@aip.org, gcollins@aip.org, jbarker@aip.org,
jschmidt@aip.org, jak@interport.net, bgl@worldnet.att.net
Subject: decadal blurb -Reply
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable
Content-Disposition: inline

S 000319

From: Barbara Levi <bgl@worldnet.att.net>
To: Barbara Levi <bgl@worldnet.att.net>
Date: 26 Mar 1998 (Thu) 10:32
Subject: order of special issue

Steve and staff:

Your outline looks good except I think the winning essays would get lost in the back. Once people start on the decades, they're unlikely to realize that there is more after that. Perhaps they should go between the articles by Catcher, Feder and Lubkin and before the decadal material.

--

Barbara G. Levi bgl@worldnet.att.net
Senior Editor 805 965 3483 (tel)
Physics Today 805 963 2574 (fax)

S 000320

Received: from LOCALNAME ([12.64.135.213]) by mtigwc03.worldnet.att.net
(post.office MTA v2.0 0613) with SMTP id AAA12409;
Thu, 26 Mar 1998 15:30:45 +0000
Message-ID: <351A7525.3F8C@worldnet.att.net>
Date: Thu, 26 Mar 1998 07:32:53 -0800
From: Barbara Levi <bgl@worldnet.att.net>
Organization: Physics Today
X-Mailer: Mozilla 3.0C-WorldNet (Win16; I)
MIME-Version: 1.0
To: Barbara Levi <bgl@worldnet.att.net>,
Bert Schwarzschild <bschwarz@aip.acp.org>,
Carol Lucas <clucas@aip.acp.org>, Charles Harris <charris@aip.acp.org>,
Chas Day <cday@aip.acp.org>, Elliot Plotkin <eplotkin@aip.acp.org>,
Gloria Lubkin <glubkin@aip.acp.org>,
Graham Collins <gcollins@aip.acp.org>,
Irwin Goodwin <goodwin@aip.acp.org>, Jean Kumagi <jak@interport.net>,
Jeff Schmidt <jschmidt@aip.org>, Judy Barker <jbarker@aip.acp.org>,
Paul Elliott <pelliot@aip.acp.org>,
Rita Wehrenberg <rwehrenb@aip.acp.org>,
Steve Benka <sbenka@aip.acp.org>, Susan Funk <sfunk@aip.acp.org>,
Toni Feder <tfeder@aip.acp.org>,
Warren Kornberg <wkornber@aip.acp.org>
Subject: order of special issue
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

S 000321

From: Stephen Benka
To: editors
Date: 26 Mar 1998 (Thu) 10:10
Subject: Articles meeting

We have an articles meeting scheduled for 2pm today, in the 3rd floor conference room. Thank you Jean for reminding me. The usual memo has not been updated or distributed, and I am not well prepared.

I propose that we hold a short meeting to (i) assess the status of the June and July articles, and (ii) discuss any firm recommendations that any editor has been itching to present to the group.

All are invited. If you want us to call you, please let me know. Thanks.

--Steve

S 000322

From: Paul Elliot
To: jschmidt
Date: 25 Mar 1998 (Wed) 15:35
Subject: Letters to the Editor Being Reviewed -Reply -Reply

Thanks, Jeff. You're welcome .

Paul

>>> Jeff Schmidt 03/25/98 10:41am >>>
Hi Paul --

I don't have any letters at this time. If you did anything to help bring about this happy circumstance, I thank you.

Jeff

S 000323

From: Jeff Schmidt
To: PELLIOT
Date: 25 Mar 1998 (Wed) 10:41
Subject: Letters to the Editor Being Reviewed -Reply

Hi Paul --

I don't have any letters at this time. If you did anything to help bring about this happy circumstance, I thank you.

Jeff

CC: jschmidt

S 000324

From: Paul Elliott (Paul Elliot)
To: sbenka,gcollins,cday,tfeder,goodwin,wsk,I:jak@inte...
Date: 24 Mar 1998 (Tue) 19:28
Subject: Letters to the Editor Being Reviewed

Greetings:

Let me know, please, what letters you currently have for review. Writer's name, subject (especially if comment about specific PT story), and month of submission would be helpful. If none, tell me so (so I won't hound you).

Also, have you completed and returned any letters to Susan (or her desk) since March 6 (so I'll know what else to look for)?

Thanks,

Paul

S 000325

From: Gloria Lubkin
To: PTall, ACPgate."tfeder@wam.umd.edu"
Date: 24 Mar 1998 (Tue) 13:24
Subject: question -Reply

The last editorial written by the editor of PT, I believe, was the one I wrote, "Thoughts on becoming editor," published in June 1985, page 128.

>>> toni feder <tfeder@wam.umd.edu> 03/24/98 12:10pm >>>
Hi Gloria, Irwin,

Hal Davis told me that the last editorial written by the editor at PT was one he wrote on the choice of (first non-physicist) science advisor to the president, with the title "Lost our voice in Washington." As far as you know, is that indeed the very last editorial that has appeared in the magazine?

Do you happen to recall when that particular editorial appeared?

Toni

CC: apsdpost.GOODWIN

S 000326

From: Charles Day
To: ACP.AIP(BSCHWARZ, CHARRIS, CLUCAS, EPLOTKIN, gcoll...
Date: 27 Feb 1998 (Fri) 8:41
Subject: Re: historical articles -Reply

Hello all,

I prefer Graham's second suggestion of putting the historical articles from a given decade in a box - one per decade. That way, we ensure that a historical perspective on, say, the career of John Bardeen, is rooted in the decade it was written in.

Chas

S 000327

From: Stephen Benka
To: ACP.AIP(AKLAR, BSCHWARZ, CDAY, CHARRIS, CLUCAS, EP...
Date: 27 Feb 1998 (Fri) 11:12
Subject: historical articles -Reply

Let's follow Graham's second suggestion: A uniform-style section within each decade for historical items published in that decade. Relevant historical photos also belong in that section for each decade.

We could do the same thing with the book reviews --- collect them for each decade into a 'books' section for that decade. Any thoughts on this?

--Steve

S 000328

From: Gloria Lubkin
To: ACP.AIP(AKLAR, BSCHWARZ, CDAY, CHARRIS, CLUCAS, EP...
Date: 27 Feb 1998 (Fri) 11:26
Subject: historical articles -Reply -Reply

I think both of Steve's suggestions make sense.
Historical items including obits could be assembled for each decade and so could historical photos.

But the issue I raised yesterday was a bit more global. When we carried review articles they were also reviewing research in the past. To which decade of excerpts does the illustration from past research belong?

As far as book reviews I think they also could be in a separate section for each decade.

>>> Stephen Benka 02/27/98 11:12am >>>

Let's follow Graham's second suggestion: A uniform-style section within each decade for historical items published in that decade. Relevant historical photos also belong in that section for each decade.

We could do the same thing with the book reviews --- collect them for each decade into a 'books' section for that decade. Any thoughts on this?

--Steve

S 000329

From: Charles Harris
To: pt
Date: 27 Feb 1998 (Fri) 12:00
Subject: historical articles -Reply

"Within each decade have a subsection, a large box or a page or two, with a unified style, perhaps even some kind of unobtrusive graphic device. A kind of "PT looks back from the 80s" box in which highlights of historical articles can be excerpted etc."

i like this approach

S 000330

From: Charles Harris
To: pt
Date: 27 Feb 1998 (Fri) 12:09
Subject: and another thing... -Reply

"it occurs to me that we physicists are a bunch of rabid nitpickers ... I think if our "decades" are anything but precisely 120 issues long each, we could come in for flak and ridicule among our target audience. (And I'm thinking more of conversation around coffee urns before colloquia than letters to the editor.)"

strange it didn't happen when pt layed out a decade-by-decade montage of images in celebration of aip's 50th anniversary back in 1981. perhaps "we physicists" weren't as rabid then.

i don't have a strong position either way, but what do you do when you get to the present decade: 1988-97?

S 000331

From: Stephen Benka
To: ACP.AIP(BSCHWARZ, CDAY, CHARRIS, CLUCAS, EPLOTKIN,...
Date: 27 Feb 1998 (Fri) 14:00
Subject: and another thing... -Reply -Reply

Here are the five decades:

1948--1957
1958--1967
1968--1977
1978--1987
1988--

Leave the last one open-ended. --Steve

>>> Charles Harris 02/27/98 12:09pm >>>
t what do you do when you get to the present decade: 1988-97?

S 000332

From: Gloria Lubkin
To: ACP.AIP(BSCHWARZ, CDAY, CHARRIS, CLUCAS, EPLOTKIN,...)
Date: 27 Feb 1998 (Fri) 14:04
Subject: and another thing... -Reply -Reply

I think Graham is right. Physicists will want the word decade to be used precisely. Just because we don't have a record of complaints and caustic thoughts and remarks doesn't mean people didn't react that way. We make an effort to be precise in other aspects of the content. Steve suggests that we handle the most recent decade as 1988-. I think that handles it well enough.

>>> Charles Harris 02/27/98 12:09pm >>>
"it occurs to me that we physicists are a bunch of rabid nitpickers ... I think if our "decades" are anything but precisely 120 issues long each, we could come in for flak and ridicule among our target audience. (And I'm thinking more of conversation around coffee urns before colloquia than letters to the editor.)"

strange it didn't happen when pt layed out a decade-by-decade montage of images in celebration of aip's 50th anniversary back in 1981. perhaps "we physicists" weren't as rabid then.

i don't have a strong position either way, but what do you do when you get to the present decade: 1988-97?

S 000333

From: Jeff Schmidt
To: SBENKA
Date: 27 Feb 1998 (Fri) 14:59
Subject: Physics Update candidates -Reply

4 A QUANTUM TUNNELING TRANSISTOR
3 SUPERCONDUCTIVITY-DEPENDENT FRICTION
8 INK-JET PRINTING OF LIGHT-EMITTING POLYMERS
10 LIQUID CARBON
2 BIG LIGHT THROUGH LITTLE HOLES
12 RECORD HIGH POWERS FROM QUANTUM CASCADE LASERS
6 MOLECULAR INDIVIDUALISM
9 ANTHROPIC COSMOLOGY
5 PROTON RADIOACTIVITY IN HIGHLY DEFORMED NUCLEI
11 NANO-CDs WITH 400 GBIT/IN² DATA STORAGE DENSITY
13 'PRL' TITLE: Quantum-Mechanical Position Operator in Extended Systems
7 Geologists: New California Volcano to Erupt in 400k Years.
1 Observation affects reality: Premise of quantum theory demonstrated in a Weizman Institute Experiment.

CC: jschmidt

S 000334

From: Gloria Lubkin
To: PTall,i:rlladbury@ccgate.hac.com
Date: 27 Feb 1998 (Fri) 17:02
Subject: Current assignments for the May special issue

Pages counts for the May issue are due Tues., 24 March, just a bit more than three weeks from now.

The map will be made Tues., 31 March.

We will have five gatefolds, each consisting of a one page introduction of sorts with text and illustration (s), and on the other side (s) a three-page spread of illustrations with a small amount of text.

For the rest of the editorial content of the issue, let's assume that the rest of the special issue is roughly the following (subject to change): (I believe that the first decade might occupy somewhat fewer pages, allowing the other decades to occupy somewhat more.)

Overview by GBL 4 pages

The three winning essays from the Search and Discovery Tomorrow contest by Paul Grant, Gordon Kane and Jack Watrous 8 pages

5 decades of the Best of Physics Today @ 16 pages/decade =80 pages

History of Physics Today by TF 3 pages

That leaves 5 pages to spare.

The excerpting assignments are as follows: (The first person named will play the lead role for that decade's excerpts and the gatefold.)

1948-57 JS with help from WK (and some from GBL)

1958-67 BMS with help from IG (and some from GBL)

1968-77 BGL with help from BMS and IG (and some from GBL)

1978-87 GC with help from BGL and JK (and some from GBL)

1988-1998 CD with help from TF and RL (and some from GBL)

EP, SB, GBL and PE will confer on Monday on the format for the decades. The current thinking is that the excerpts will primarily be chronological. If themes are identified, they may be pulled out from the chronology into boxes or full pages or spreads, as appropriate. Illustrations from that decade's issues will need to be provided for both the Best of PT and the gatefolds.

We still need someone to be responsible for editing the three prizewinning essays. Probably it should be one of the Search team.

PE will as usual be copy editing. JB is available for keyboarding, proof reading and probably some copy editing. CL is supervising the Xeroxing that Tavita Beard is doing for us.

It's not clear whether the excerpts should be keyboarded, cut and pasted electronically or reproduced photographically. The difficulty with photographic reproduction is in handling ellipses, square brackets and the like.

Concerning the art: Don Price will be asked to assist EP with the issue. North Light will be asked to design the gatefolds under EP's direction.

Concerning permissions to reproduce the art, CH and Ann Perlman will seek advice from a lawyer on whether or not we need permission to use art previously used, even when it was obtained for one time use only.

Book reviews will run within the decade excerpts but can be separated from the rest of the text in some way, such as a section within the decade.

Historical article excerpts will run within the Best of PT decade in which they were actually published in PT, again separated in some way from the rest of the excerpts.

S 000335

Please make sure that your Xeroxes have been made correctly and completely. We need all 50 years worth of summary sheets and Xeroxes here in the Physics Today College Park office so that those working here can look at them. If you need to work on them remotely, you will need to have extra copies.

Thanks to all of you for pitching in to make this a memorable 50th birthday issue.

S 000336

From: Carol Lucas
To: JSCHMIDT
Date: 4 Mar 1998 (Wed) 10:26
Subject: Former employees

Elliot tells me that you are still in touch with Chris Mohr. We would like to invite him to the 50th anniversary celebration. Do you have an address?

Carol

S 000337

From: Carol Lucas
To: AIP PERSONNEL
Date: 4 Mar 1998 (Wed) 11:18
Subject: Former Physics Today Employees

Physics Today will be celebrating its 50th Anniversary in June with a celebration here at the ACP. We would like to invite all former employees of PT. Elliot Plotkin has been kind enough to develop the attached list for me. I would appreciate any input anyone might have regarding additional names, addresses or phone numbers.

Thank you,
Carol Lucas

S 000338

From: Gloria Lubkin
To: PTall
Date: 5 Mar 1998 (Thu) 18:03
Subject: Next meeting on the May 50th special issue

Let's have a meeting on Tues., 10 March at 10:30 AM, to discuss progress and excerpting techniques. We had a rump meeting yesterday to set some guidelines, which I summarize below.

(I will be working at home Friday, 6 March, except for going to the physical therapist in the vicinity of lunch time. On Monday I will be visiting my daughter in Raleigh and if necessary can be reached there, 919-834-8374. For the next few days I'll be out of touch by e mail.)

Because of limitations on Elliot's time and the limited number of days that Don Price is available, at the rump meeting we discussed perhaps reducing the average number of editorial pages per decade to eight (plus an additional four for the gate fold per decade). Subsequently, in discussions with SB, EP and CH it appears possible that we might still wind up being able to expand from an average of eight to an average of 16, provided that some of the material is lengthy, such as short articles. So one approach might be to identify a set of excerpts appropriate for eight pages and in addition identify some gems that could run in their entirety if space and time become available. EP also said that RW might be helpful in photographic scanning of such longer gems because the cut and paste effort involved would be minimized. Don Price might also be available somewhat longer than EP originally estimated, by working weekends or at home while his children are with him on spring break.

All Xerox copies should be completed by tomorrow, Friday, 6 March so that Susan can get four additional Xerox copies made at Kinko Copies over the weekend. Thus by Monday, 9 March there should be a total of five copies of all potential material for excerpts. One set needs to stay here at the College Park PT office. Those working at remote locations who need a set can be sent them by Fed. Express on Monday. One set will be available for North Light Communications, who will be doing the gatefolds in consultation with EP. I will be conferring with each of the five teams working on the decade excerpts, to get a feel for which material is likely to be excerpted, but I may wind up using some of the stuff for the Overview that does not get excerpted. (So I will need to be able to get at a set of Xeroxes while the teams are working on their excerpts so that my reading and writing for the Overview goes on in parallel with the excerpting.)

There's a lot more to cover at Tuesday's meeting, but I'll close for now.

S 000339

From: Susan Funk <wedchild@toad.net>
To: ACP.AIP(RWEHRENB,BSCHWARZ,JSCHMIDT,EPLTKIN,KMCNAU...
Date: 8 Mar 1998 (Sun) 18:49
Subject: An accident I had yesterday...

I for sure won't be in tomorrow, Monday, March 9. As I was trimming our pin oak in our front yard, one of the branches I was cutting snapped off and back into my face, right above my eye. I put ice on it and didn't think too much about it yesterday, but this morning Rob is taking me to the hospital to check for concussion and possibly a cracked bone around my eye. I have to thank God that it didn't hit 1" in either direction -- to the left would have been right IN my eye, to the right my temple.... My return to the office depends on what the doctors say. I am dizzy and a little nauseous with a bad black eye, swelling as I type. Hopefully, I'll see you later this week.

Carol, the first run of copies should be delivered from Kinko's on Monday. AIP has an account already setup with them and I instructed Kinko's to charge this job to that account using the PO# that Connie gave me. Kinko's said that the pink slip that will come with the delivery of our job IS the invoice and we are to pay from that. The information is either on my desk or in my inbox in a clip of all my notes regarding this PO (the PO copy is pink also). Charles had asked me to send a set of what we had copied to Northlight and Barbara's set to her. Not being there, I fulfill this task. Would you be so kind as to see that it gets done?

Steve, as far as the meeting preview, Paul has it to copyedit. My part in this process is complete.

I believe that is all for now. Any questions, please call,
Susan

S 000340

Received: from beast.toad.net ([205.197.182.100])
by ACPGate.acp.org (GroupWise SMTP/MIME daemon 4.1 v3)
; Sun, 8 Mar 98 18:55:49 EST
Received: from wedchild.toad.net (spld43.toad.net [209.49.30.43])
by beast.toad.net (8.8.6/8.8.7) with SMTP id SAA07428;
Sun, 8 Mar 1998 18:54:49 -0500
Message-Id: <2.2.32.19980308234903.006977cc@mail.toad.net>
X-Sender: wedchild@mail.toad.net
X-Mailer: Windows Eudora Pro Version 2.2 (32)
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Date: Sun, 08 Mar 1998 18:49:03 -0500
To: jrbarker@aip.acp.org, sbenka@aip.acp.org, gcollins@aip.acp.org,
pelliot@aip.acp.org, tfeder@aip.acp.org, goodwin@aip.acp.org,
charris@aip.acp.org, akklar@aip.acp.org, wsk@aip.acp.org,
jak@interport.net, bgl@worldnet.att.net, glubkin@aip.acp.org,
clucas@aip.acp.org, kmcnaugh@aip.acp.org, eplotkin@aip.acp.org,
jschmidt@aip.acp.org, bschwarz@aip.acp.org, rwehrenb@aip.acp.org
From: Susan Funk <wedchild@toad.net>
Subject: An accident I had yesterday...

S 000341

From: Charles Day
To: ACP.AIP(BSCHWARZ, CHARRIS, CLUCAS, EPLOTKIN, GCOLL...
Date: 9 Mar 1998 (Mon) 16:16
Subject: Excerpting for the 50th anniversary issue

Hello all,

I've just done a little experiment to determine how selective I must be in picking excerpts.

I pretended that all the items in one year (46 of them from 1991) should be excerpted. Under the assumption that the excerpts should be as short as possible (to include more of them) yet still understandable by themselves, I then identified the excerptible bits. At the same time, I noted the size of each excerpt and plotted it on a histogram.

What I found was a Maxwell-Boltzmann distribution of excerpt sizes with a median in the range of 0.2-0.3 of a page and a mean of 0.34. This implies 3-5 excerpts per page.

Typically, I identified 45 potentially excerptible items per year. If we have 16 pages per decade, then I need to select about 80 items from a total of 450.

Incidentally, I was surprised and encouraged to find that the actual process of excerpting - that is, extracting samples - was not very difficult. It was often fairly clear which paragraph or paragraphs could capture a story.

Chas

S 000342

From: Graham Collins
To: JBARKER, SBENKA, CDAY, PELLIOT, TFEDER, SFUNK, aps...
Date: 26 Feb 1998 (Thu) 21:49
Subject: historical articles

A topic that arose at today's meeting wasn't satisfactorily resolved.

[Chorus: This is news??]

I'm looking at November 1988's "Pions to Quarks: Particle Physics in the 1950s," by Laurie Brown, Max Dresden, and Lillian Hoddeson.

As I understand it / recall, we decided not to include photos from an item like this in the 1948-57 section, which means they would have to go in the 1988-97 section, which would be awkward at best and absurd at worst, depending on how clumsily we do it.

But leaving aside the question of photos, there are numerous excellent historical articles whose excerpts deserve a rational location in the special issue. I contend that for many of them, a separate section may be needed. There are some exceptions: Our Roentgen and Electron issues, for example, celebrate centenaries and are thus easily included in the era in which they were published. Something like this Pions to Quarks article, however, doesn't rightly fit anywhere at present.

The historical articles, after all, supposedly achieve a kind of timelessness, helping to inscribe the long-term judgement of an era in a way that a 1987 article on superstrings, for example, does not.

A second idea that's not as good, but that doesn't require adding a whole 'nother section: Instead of a separate section outside of the decades, do the following: Within each decade have a subsection, a large box or a page or two, with a unified style, perhaps even some kind of unobtrusive graphic device. A kind of "PT looks back from the 80s" box in which highlights of historical articles can be excerpted etc.

-- Graham

S 000343

From: Graham Collins
To: JBARKER, SBENKA, CDAY, PELLIOT, TFEDER, SFUNK, aps...
Date: 26 Feb 1998 (Thu) 21:59
Subject: and another thing...

... while I think of it.

There was some flip talk about not being too bothered about the edges of the decades. Even to the point of having each decade be 11 years, 1948-58, for example. At the time this decision to be relaxed about it went by me as reasonable, relatively speaking.

I guess I've been paying too much attention to the letters columns (are Cranberg and Yaes on our payroll?), but it occurs to me that we physicists are a bunch of rabid nitpickers when it comes to details like this. I think if our "decades" are anything but precisely 120 issues long each, we could come in for flak and ridicule among our target audience. (And I'm thinking more of conversation around coffee urns before colloquia than letters to the editor.)

-- Graham

S 000344

From: "Jean A. Kumagai" <jak@interport.net>
To: ACP.AIP(WKORNBER,TFEDER,SBENKA,RWEHRENB,PELLIOT,JS...
Date: 27 Feb 1998 (Fri) 8:15
Subject: Re: historical articles

I think either of Graham's suggestions -- stand-alone section for historical articles or separate boxes within sections -- would be good. separate boxes would be easier to handle in the present work arrangement. as i recall, the general feeling at yesterday's meeting regarding historical photos was that they shouldn't be used in the foldout thingies at the beginning of each decade because that would be confusing.

jean

S 000345

Received: from amsterdam.interport.net ([199.184.165.9])
by ACPGate.acp.org (GroupWise SMTP/MIME daemon 4.1 v3)
; Fri, 27 Feb 98 08:16:00 EST
Received: from [207.237.104.194] (usrtslp194.port.net [207.237.104.194])
by amsterdam.interport.net (8.8.5/8.8.5) with ESMTTP id IAA26468;
Fri, 27 Feb 1998 08:15:00 -0500 (EST)
Date: Fri, 27 Feb 1998 08:15:00 -0500 (EST)
X-Sender: jak@pop.interport.net
Message-Id: <v03110701b11c25113846@[207.237.104.194]>
In-Reply-To: <s4f5e3ad.041@acpgate.acp.org>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
To: bgl@worldnet.att.net, bschwarz@aip.acp.org, charris@aip.acp.org,
clucas@aip.acp.org, eplotkin@aip.acp.org, gcollins@aip.org,
goodwin@aip.acp.org, jschmidt@aip.acp.org, pelliot@aip.acp.org,
rwehrenb@aip.acp.org, sbenka@aip.acp.org, tfeder@aip.acp.org,
wkornber@aip.acp.org, gbl2@aip.org, jbarker@aip.org, sfunk@aip.org,
cday@aip.org
From: "Jean A. Kumagai" <jak@interport.net>
Subject: Re: historical articles
Cc: jak@interport.net

S 000346

From: Stephen Benka
To: ACP.AIP(BSCHWARZ, CDAY, GLUBKIN, TFEDER, JSCHMIDT)...
Date: 26 Feb 1998 (Thu) 17:16
Subject: Search? Nature/Weizmann/Embargoed -Reply

Moti Heiblum had told Barbara and me about this work last December, and I told him we would consider it for an Update item. I'll tack it on to the selections for your consideration.

>>> Graham Collins 02/23/98 03:58pm >>>

Here's a press release from Weizmann. More work by Heiblum, to appear in this week's Nature. It looks to me that the relevant preprint is on the Los Alamos server as <http://xxx.lanl.gov/abs/quant-ph/9709022> ("Dephasing due to 'Which Path' Detector"), which dates back to September last year. I've printed a copy of the preprint if anyone wants it.

-- Graham

>>> <JULIE@acwis.org> 02/23/98 10:40am >>>

CONTACT: Julie Osler
Weizmann/USA
(212) 779-2500 email: JOSLER@CompuServe.com

****EMBARGOED FOR RELEASE:****

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1998 u 2 p.m. eastern time

OBSERVATION AFFECTS REALITY: PREMISE OF QUANTUM THEORY
DEMONSTRATED IN A WEIZMANN INSTITUTE EXPERIMENT

REHOVOT, Israel, February 26, 1998aOne of the most bizarre premises of quantum theory, which has long fascinated philosophers and physicists alike, states that by the very act of watching, the observer affects the observed reality.

In a study reported in the February 26 issue of Nature (Vol. 391, pp. 871-874), researchers at the Weizmann Institute of Science have now conducted a highly controlled experiment demonstrating how a beam of electrons is affected by the act of being observed. The experiment revealed that the greater the amount of "watching," the greater the observerAEs influence on what actually takes place.

The research team headed by Prof. Mordehai Heiblum, included Ph.D. student Eyal Buks, Dr. Ralph Schuster, Dr. Diana Mahalu and Dr. Vladimir Umansky. The scientists, members of the Condensed Matter Physics Department, work at the InstituteAEs Joseph H. and Belle R. Braun Center for Submicron Research.

When a quantum "observer" is watching

Quantum mechanics states that particles can also behave as waves. This can be true for electrons at the submicron level, i.e., at distances measuring less than one micron, or one thousandth of a millimeter. When behaving as waves, they can simultaneously pass through several openings in a barrier and then meet again at the other side of the barrier. This "meeting" is known as interference.

Strange as it may sound, interference can only occur when no one is watching. Once an observer begins to watch the particles going through the openings, the picture changes dramatically: if a particle can be seen going through one opening, then itAEs clear it didnAET go through another. In other words, when under observation, electrons are being "forced" to behave like particles and not like waves. Thus the mere act of observation affects the experimental findings.

To demonstrate this, Weizmann Institute researchers built a tiny device measuring less than one micron in size, which had a barrier with two openings. They then sent a current of electrons towards the barrier. The "observer" in this experiment wasn't human. Institute scientists used for this purpose a tiny but sophisticated electronic detector that can spot passing electrons. The quantum "observerAEs" capacity to detect electrons could be altered by changing its electrical conductivity, or the strength of the current passing through it.

Apart from "observing," or detecting, the electrons, the detector had no effect on the current. Yet the scientists found that the very presence of the detector-"observer" near one of the openings caused changes in the

S 000347

interference pattern of the electron waves passing through the openings of the barrier. In fact, this effect was dependent on the "amount" of the observation: when the "observer's" capacity to detect electrons increased, in other words, when the level of the observation went up, the interference weakened; in contrast, when its capacity to detect electrons was reduced, in other words, when the observation slackened, the interference increased. Thus, by controlling the properties of the quantum observer the scientists managed to control the extent of its influence on the electrons' behavior. The theoretical basis for this phenomenon was developed several years ago by a number of physicists, including Dr. Adi Stern and Prof. Yoseph Imry of the Weizmann Institute of Science, together with Prof. Yakir Aharonov of Tel Aviv University. The new experimental work was initiated following discussions with Weizmann Institute's Prof. Shmuel Gurvitz, and its results have already attracted the interest of theoretical physicists around the world and are being studied, among others, by Prof. Yehoshua Levinson of the Weizmann Institute.

Tomorrow's Technology

The experiment's finding that observation tends to kill interference may be used in tomorrow's technology to ensure the secrecy of information transfer. This can be accomplished if information is encoded in such a way that the interference of multiple electron paths is needed to decipher it. "The presence of an eavesdropper, who is an observer, although an unwanted one, would kill the interference," says Prof. Heiblum. "This would let the recipient know that the message has been intercepted." On a broader scale, the Weizmann Institute experiment is an important contribution to the scientific community's efforts aimed at developing quantum electronic machines, which may become a reality in the next century. This radically new type of electronic equipment may exploit both the particle and wave nature of electrons at the same time and a greater understanding of the interplay between these two characteristics are needed for the development of this equipment. Such future technology may, for example, open the way to the development of new computers whose capacity will vastly exceed that of today's most advanced machines. This research was funded in part by the Minerva Foundation, Munich, Germany. Prof. Imry holds the Max Planck Chair of Quantum Physics and heads the Albert Einstein Minerva Center for Theoretical Physics.

The Weizmann Institute of Science, in Rehovot, Israel, is one of the world's foremost centers of scientific research and graduate study. Its 2,400 scientists, students, technicians, and engineers pursue basic research in the quest for knowledge and the enhancement of the human condition. New ways of fighting disease and hunger, protecting the environment, and harnessing alternative sources of energy are high priorities.

Weizmann Institute news releases are posted on the World Wide Web at <http://www.weizmann.ac.il> and also at <http://www.eurekalert.org>.

- 2 -
-more-
<<<<<

(That's everything I got -- GPC)

S 000348

From: Susan Funk
To: jschmidt
Date: 26 Feb 1998 (Thu) 12:54
Subject: Status of review of article assigned to you

Please reply the status of your review of the article: #AR648 Abrikosov (assigned to you 2/3/98).
Thanks!

2/27/98

S 000349

From: Charles Day
To: ACP.AIP(BSCHWARZ, CHARRIS, CLUCAS, EPLOTKIN, GCOLL...
Date: 20 Feb 1998 (Fri) 16:31
Subject: Next meeting on May 50th birthday issue -Reply

Hello all,

I question whether it's really necessary to photocopy the potentially excerptible bits of Physics Today that I identify from the 1990s.

We have plenty of copies of PT from the 1990s. They are not old and fragile. Photocopying parts of them seems like a waste of time, trees and toner.

Is there a compelling reason to do so?

Chas

S 000350

From: Gloria Lubkin
To: ACP.AIP(BSCHWARZ, CHARRIS, CLUCAS, EPLOTKIN, GCOLL...
Date: 20 Feb 1998 (Fri) 16:39
Subject: Next meeting on May 50th birthday issue -Reply -Reply

I think it's useful to have such a set of Xeroxes. It allows a compact collection that will be available to the team doing the excerpting, to me doing the overview, and to the possible future book that I hope will also be an outcome of this project.
Gloria

>>> Charles Day 02/20/98 04:31pm >>>
Hello all,

I question whether it's really necessary to photocopy the potentially excerptible bits of Physics Today that I identify from the 1990s.

We have plenty of copies of PT from the 1990s. They are not old and fragile. Photocopying parts of them seems like a waste of time, trees and toner.

Is there a compelling reason to do so?

Chas

S 000351

From: Charles Day
To: ACP.AIP(BSCHWARZ, CHARRIS, CLUCAS, EPLOTKIN, GCOLL...
Date: 20 Feb 1998 (Fri) 16:57
Subject: Next meeting on May 50th birthday issue -Reply -Reply -Reply

Hello Gloria,

I agree on the usefulness of photocopying the excerpts. But I still wonder whether it's necessary, in the case of the 1990s, to create multiple sets of pre-excerpted material.

Chas

S 000352

From: Gloria Lubkin
To: ACP.AIP(BSCHWARZ, CHARRIS, CLUCAS, EPLOTKIN, GCOLL...
Date: 20 Feb 1998 (Fri) 16:59
Subject: Next meeting on May 50th birthday issue -Reply -Reply -Reply -Reply

Chas,
I don't think anyone suggested creating multiple sets at this point.
G

S 000353

From: Warren Kornberg
To: ACP.AIP(BSCHWARZ, CDAY, CHARRIS, CLUCAS, EPLOTKIN,...
Date: 23 Feb 1998 (Mon) 10:02
Subject: Next meeting on May 50th birthday issue -Reply -Reply -Reply -Reply
-Reply

Seems to me, for the 90s at least, the issues are sufficiently abundant and
insufficiently precious so that tearsheets would do.

w

S 000354

From: Graham Collins
To: ACP.AIP(BSCHWARZ, CDAY, CHARRIS, CLUCAS, EPLOTKIN,...
Date: 23 Feb 1998 (Mon) 10:41
Subject: Next meeting on May 50th birthday issue -Reply -Reply -Reply -Reply
-Reply -Reply

Much as I hate to defend an excess of photocopy busywork, there are a few issues in the 90s for which we have extremely few copies. Except for those issues, it's true that tearsheets would be a reasonable plan.

-- Graham

>>> Warren Kornberg 02/23/98 10:02am >>>
Seems to me, for the 90s at least, the issues are sufficiently abundant and insufficiently precious so that tearsheets would do.
w

S 000355

From: Gloria Lubkin
To: CHARRIS, i:worldnet.att.net:bgl, PTall
Date: 19 Feb 1998 (Thu) 10:27
Subject: Next PT staff meeting on May special issue

We all missed you at the meeting held on Tues. and would like to ensure your participation in the next one. We'd like to schedule it for Thurs., 26 Feb. or Fri., 27 Feb. Please let me know what works best for you.
The deadline for editors to finish finding suitable material from the 50 years of PT is 27 Feb., which makes it a natural date for the meeting.
G

S 000356

From: toni feder <tfeder@wam.umd.edu>
To: stephen benka <sbenka@aip.acp.org>, Charles Day <c...
Date: 18 Feb 1998 (Wed) 17:04
Subject: PT feedback

Hi all,

I sent this out yesterday, but since my own copy didn't get to me, I suspect it didn't get to you, either. So here it is again.

--Toni

Below is a compilation of some comments on PT that have recently come my way....

Two people (Tony Tyson and Bertram Batlogg) said the magazine had "gotten a lot better in the past two years."
Batlogg added, "I measure [Physics Today] against Physics World. Let's say it's getting there."

Batlogg also commented that he has liked Barbara's Search stories, and said:

-- he would like to see less technical articles and
-- more timely search and discovery stories
-- he likes the Physics Updates

Other comments:

Berndt Mueller (dept head at Duke University) complained about the due date for submitting ads, saying the university must get them so far ahead of when they appear. He suggested that ads be posted immediately on the Web. Mueller (and others) also would like to see ads sorted by job type.

I received complaints about receiving multiple copies of the magazine each month.

Michael Fisher (University of Maryland) lamented that Physics Today "doesn't let an editorial voice get into the magazine."

Colin MacIlwain (news writer for Nature) said he thinks the content of Physics Today is great, but that in his view the organization lacks cohesion. As examples, he noted that the Letters are not all together, and that there is no editorial leading off each issue.

MacIlwain and two young researchers at Bell Labs all said they like the articles on history.

S 000357

Received: from po4.wam.umd.edu ([128.8.10.166])
by ACPGate.acp.org (GroupWise SMTP/MIME daemon 4.1 v3)
; Wed, 18 Feb 98 17:01:14 EST
Received: from rac4.wam.umd.edu (tfeder@rac4.wam.umd.edu [128.8.10.144])
by po4.wam.umd.edu (8.8.8/8.8.7) with ESMTP id RAA17295;
Wed, 18 Feb 1998 17:04:59 -0500 (EST)
Received: from localhost (tfeder@localhost)
by rac4.wam.umd.edu (8.8.8/8.8.7) with SMTP id RAA11197;
Wed, 18 Feb 1998 17:04:58 -0500 (EST)
X-Authentication-Warning: rac4.wam.umd.edu: tfeder owned process doing -bs
Date: Wed, 18 Feb 1998 17:04:58 -0500 (EST)
From: toni feder <tfeder@wam.umd.edu>
To: charris@aip.acp.org, stephen benka <sbenka@aip.acp.org>,
goodwin@aip.acp.org, bschwarz@aip.acp.org, gcollins@aip.acp.org,
glubkin@aip.acp.org, bgl@worldnet.att.net,
Charles Day <cday@aip.acp.org>, paul elliott <pelliot@aip.acp.org>,
jschmidt@aip.acp.org, Jean Kumagai <jak@interport.net>,
toni at work <tfeder@aip.acp.org>
Subject: PT feedback
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.95q.980218170302.11000A-100000@rac4.wam.umd.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

S 000358

From: Graham Collins
To: JBARKER, SBENKA, CDAY, PELLIOT, TFEDER, SFUNK, aps...
Date: 12 Feb 1998 (Thu) 11:56
Subject: Monthly meeting

I understand our monthly meeting is to take place on Tuesday, 10 am to noon. Have any agenda items been proposed?

-- Graham

S 000359

From: Charles Harris
To: GCOLLINS,JBARKER, SBENKA, CDAY, PELLLOT, TFEDER, S...
Date: 12 Feb 1998 (Thu) 22:34
Subject: Monthly meeting -Reply

we were going to talk about the writing tone and style of the magazine, but i had also proposed that we discuss the impact of increased telecommuting

S 000360

From: Susan Funk
To: ACP.AIP(BSCHWARZ, CDAY, CHARRIS, CLUCAS, EPLOTKIN,...
Date: 13 Feb 1998 (Fri) 9:33
Subject: Monthly meeting -Reply -Reply

All,
I agree with Charles' suggestion to bring up the telecommuting impact. I would also like to suggest that we quickly (10 minutes) go over the distribution Carol made earlier about the division of admin responsibilities--clarify any confusion.

S 000361

From: Graham Collins
To: ACP.AIP(BLEVI, BSCHWARZ, CLUCAS, GLUBKIN, JBARKER,...)
Date: 13 Feb 1998 (Fri) 18:05
Subject: Paul's Discussion Topic [Style] for February Monthly Meeting

This is certainly a topic that needs to be discussed and resolved. I believe we will need more than an hour to resolve it, but I can see the sense in biting off a one-hour chunk of it to get started -- provided we follow up in subsequent meetings and reach a resolution before the end of the millennium.

I offer no opinion as to whether this is a topic more worthy of discussion than others that have been proposed for the February meeting. (That is literal, not euphemism.)

-- Graham

>>> Paul Elliott (Paul Elliot) 02/13/98 04:29pm >>>
[...]

These two examples reflect our need to discuss and reach decisions about two critical matters of editorial style:

1. What exactly should PT's editorial style be?
2. How exactly should that style be used?

These two questions lead directly to a third question, which I recommend be discussed at the upcoming monthly meeting:

3. What mechanism should we use to determine both the form and use of PT editorial style?
- [...]

S 000362

From: Graham Collins
To: ACP.AIP(BSCHWARZ, CDAY, CHARRIS, CLUCAS, EPLOTKIN,...
Date: 13 Feb 1998 (Fri) 18:09
Subject: Meeting on May 50th birthday issue -Reply

One of these questions is very easy.

>>> Gloria Lubkin 02/13/98 01:57pm >>>
Will there be enough good book reviews to excerpt?
<<<<<<

Ans: Yes.

-- Graham

S 000363

From: Warren Kornberg
To: ACP.AIP(BLEVI, BSCHWARZ, CDAY, CHARRIS, CLUCAS, EP...
Date: 14 Feb 1998 (Sat) 21:25
Subject: Wheeler Book -Reply

I have already begun proceedings to get the book for review. I don't think the decision on excerpting or serializing (ugh!) should be made outside of the office.
w

S 000364

From: Graham Collins
To: ACP.AIP(BSCHWARZ, CHARRIS, CLUCAS, EPLOTKIN, GLUBK...
Date: 17 Feb 1998 (Tue) 9:27
Subject: Monthly meeting -Reply -Reply -Reply -Reply -Reply -Reply -Reply

I agree that having Q&A's would be good.

I don't favor making the monthly general meetings less frequent -- we still have a lot of issues that need discussion and resolution.

>>> Charles Day 02/17/98 09:08am >>>

I'd also like to see the return of the Q&A meetings.

Perhaps we could have Q&As every month and the bigger meetings less often - say, every two months.

Chas

S 000365

From: Charles Day
To: ACP.AIP(BSCHWARZ, CHARRIS, CLUCAS, EPLOTKIN, GLUBK...
Date: 17 Feb 1998 (Tue) 9:08
Subject: Monthly meeting -Reply -Reply -Reply -Reply -Reply -Reply

I'd also like to see the return of the Q&A meetings.

Perhaps we could have Q&As every month and the bigger meetings less often - say, every two months.

Chas

S 000366

From: JEAN KUMAGAI <jak@interport.net>
To: Toni Feder <tfeder@aip.acp.org>
Date: 17 Feb 1998 (Tue) 8:01
Subject: Re: Monthly meeting -Reply -Reply

I think that's an excellent idea.
--Jean

On Mon, 16 Feb 1998, Toni Feder wrote:

> I suggest that we reintroduce Q&A meetings.
>
> ---Toni
>

CC: ACP.AIP(BSCHWARZ,CHARRIS,CLUCAS,EPLOTKIN,JSCHMIDT,...

S 000367

Received: from amsterdam.interport.net ([199.184.165.9])
by ACPGate.acp.org (GroupWise SMTP/MIME daemon 4.1 v3)
; Tue, 17 Feb 98 07:57:57 EST
Received: from interport.net (jak@park.nfs.interport.net [205.161.144.2])
by amsterdam.interport.net (8.8.5/8.8.5) with ESMTTP id IAA22316;
Tue, 17 Feb 1998 08:01:33 -0500 (EST)
Received: from localhost (jak@localhost)
by interport.net (8.8.5/8.8.5) with SMTP id IAA20369;
Tue, 17 Feb 1998 08:01:29 -0500 (EST)
Date: Tue, 17 Feb 1998 08:01:29 -0500 (EST)
From: JEAN KUMAGAI <jak@interport.net>
To: Toni Feder <tfeder@aip.acp.org>
cc: bschwarz@aip.acp.org, charris@aip.acp.org, clucas@aip.acp.org,
eplokin@aip.acp.org, goodwin@aip.acp.org, jschmidt@aip.acp.org,
pelliot@aip.acp.org, rwehrenb@aip.acp.org, sbenka@aip.acp.org,
wkornber@aip.acp.org, cday@aip.org, gbl2@aip.org, gcollins@aip.org,
jbarker@aip.org, sfunk@aip.org, bgl@worldnet.att.net
Subject: Re: Monthly meeting -Reply -Reply
In-Reply-To: <s4e8072c.007@acpgate.acp.org>
Message-ID: <Pine.GSO.3.96.980217080106.20306A-100000@interport.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

S 000368

From: Toni Feder
To: ACP.AIP(BSCHWARZ, CDAY, CHARRIS, CLUCAS, EPLOTKIN,...
Date: 16 Feb 1998 (Mon) 9:33
Subject: Monthly meeting -Reply -Reply

I suggest that we reintroduce Q&A meetings.

---Toni

S 000369

From: Jeff Schmidt
To: RWEHRENB
Date: 6 Feb 1998 (Fri) 7:18
Subject: Sullivan and Barth

Hi Rita --

Thanks again for your conscientious work on the Sullivan and Barth articles. (I use the word "conscientious" here to save myself the trouble of typing two words -- excellent and timely -- but now I've gone and typed 27 words explaining!)

It appears that Steve did eventually make it into the office Thursday, because I got an e-mail message from him sent at 8:15 pm. He said he looked over the Sullivan and Barth articles and left them with his comments on the chair in my office. He indicated that he was pleased with the content of the two-article "package" and with the on-time production. So you can now hold your head high as you walk down the office corridors.

I wonder if you would please fax to me the pages that Steve marked on. I don't need any unmarked pages because I'll get those in the FedEx that you sent to me, but feel free to fax all the pages if that would be easier. The fax number is 202-363-5824.

Thanks,

-- Jeff

CC: JSCHMIDT

S 000370

From: Gloria Lubkin
To: ACP.AIP(BSCHWARZ, CDAY, CHARRIS, CLUCAS, EPLOTKIN,...
Date: 9 Feb 1998 (Mon) 10:58
Subject: Temporary Help -Reply

Those of you who have identified possible items for the Best of Physics Today are welcome to ask Tevita to make Xerox copies of the items. That will simplify the subsequent job we'll have to selecting from the wealth of possibilities.
Gloria

>>> Carol Lucas 02/09/98 08:36am >>>
We have a temp in for the next two weeks or so. Basically, she will be copying articles for Gloria for the 50th anniversary issue. However, if you have any other work for her, please let me know.

Her name is Tevita Beard. Please stop and say hello to her.

Thanks,
Carol

S 000371

From: Jeff Schmidt
To: SFUNK
Date: 24 Dec 1997 (Wed) 12:49
Subject: Articles Meeting Scheduling... -Reply

>>> Susan Funk 12/24/97 09:29am >>>
I would like to suggest a change to my earlier articles meeting time: How does
Thursday, January 22 look on your schedule to have the articles meeting from 2-3:30
that afternoon?

Susan --

That day and time are fine for me.

Jeff

CC: jschmidt

S 000372

From: Jeff Schmidt
To: SFUNK
Date: 16 Jan 1998 (Fri) 14:28
Subject: 50th Anniversary Issue Discussions (continued) -Reply

Hi Susan --

Yes, Thursday 22 January is a good day for meetings. The articles meeting is at 2 pm on that day.

Jeff

CC: jschmidt

S 000373

From: Carol Lucas
To: PT, KMCNAUGH, AKLAR
Date: 7 Jan 1998 (Wed) 11:28
Subject: Physics Programs Meeting

Boy, meetings, meetings, meetings.

This one is on January 13, 3:00 p.m. in Conference Room A. All staff are invited to meet Jim Stith, the new Director of Physics Programs.

Carol

S 000374

From: Jeff Schmidt
To: CLUCAS
Date: 7 Jan 1998 (Wed) 13:35
Subject: January Staff Meeting -Reply

Yes, 14 January is OK for me.

Jeff

CC: jschmidt

S 000375

From: Jeff Schmidt
To: CLUCAS
Date: 7 Jan 1998 (Wed) 13:57
Subject: Physics Today 50th Anniversary Party -Reply

I will plan to attend.

Jeff

CC: jschmidt

S 000376

From: Susan Funk
To: Articles Meeting Group
Date: 22 Dec 1997 (Mon) 16:12
Subject: Setting Next Articles Meeting Date

Please advise your availability for Wednesday, January 21, 2-3:30pm. I would like to schedule the next articles meeting for that day and time pending favorable response to this message.

Thanks,
Susan

CC: SFUNK

S 000377

From: Susan Funk
To: SBENKA, GCOLLINS, CDAY, PELLIOT, TFEDER, GLUBKIN, ...
Date: 24 Dec 1997 (Wed) 9:29
Subject: Articles Meeting Scheduling...

I would like to suggest a change to my earlier articles meeting time: How does Thursday, January 22 look on your schedule to have the articles meeting from 2-3:30 that afternoon?

CC: SFUNK

S 000378

From: Jeff Schmidt
To: SFUNK
Date: 22 Dec 1997 (Mon) 19:08
Subject: Setting Next Articles Meeting Date -Reply

That date and time are OK for me.

Jeff

CC: jschmidt

S 000379

From: Jerry Schmidt <ar429@lafn.ORG>
To: ACP.AIP(RWEHRENB)
Date: 10 Dec 1997 (Wed) 18:26
Subject: Theory proven

Hi Rita,

Your work on the last round of corrections to the Mourou article was up to your usual high standards, and that helped make it possible to close out the article today. (Paul told me that Elliot was sending it to the printer.) Thanks again.

Yes, my theory about how Monday's Fed Ex went to my DC address turned out to be correct.* John Arnold in the mailroom is arranging to have Fed Ex pick it up and send it to the address that you wrote on the label in the first place. He seemed embarrassed by the mailroom mistake, especially because just a few weeks ago, after talking to me, he had decided to proofread all Fed Ex labels that they retype. Without my asking, he said it wouldn't happen again.

* Physicists are always happy when their theories are proved correct. I think that if a physicist predicted that a meteor would hit the Earth, he wouldn't be completely disappointed if it actually happened.

Jeff

CC: ACP.AIP(JSCHMIDT)

S 000380

Received: from zool.lafn.org ([206.117.18.7])
by ACPGate.acp.org (GroupWise SMTP/MIME daemon 4.1 v3)
; Wed, 10 Dec 97 18:26:05 EST
Received: from lafn.org.lafn.org (cs-ecc1-p21.lafn.org [192.168.16.21])
by zool.lafn.org (8.8.5/8.8.5) with SMTP id PAA18538;
Wed, 10 Dec 1997 15:26:02 -0800 (PST)
Message-ID: <348F2542.4533@mail.lafn.org>
Date: Wed, 10 Dec 1997 15:26:59 -0800
From: Jerry Schmidt <ar429@lafn.ORG>
Reply-To: ar429@lafn.org
Organization: Los Angeles Free Net
X-Mailer: Mozilla 3.01 (Win95; I)
MIME-Version: 1.0
To: rwehrenb@aip.acp.org
CC: jschmidt@aip.acp.org
Subject: Theory proven
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

S 000381

From: Jeff Schmidt
To: SBENKA
Date: 24 Dec 1997 (Wed) 5:34
Subject: Physics News Update rankings

Steve --

Here are my rankings of the Physics News Update items.

Jeff

- 7 -- Quantum boxes...
- 8 -- Can electrons behave...
- 1 -- A photonic Hall Effect...
- 9 -- Sulphur superconductivity...
- 2 -- Electron holography...
- 3 -- Attaching a single DNA...
- 5 -- The physics of posture...
- 4 -- The spring constant...
- 6 -- Magnetic fields...

CC: JSCHMIDT

S 000382

From: Susan Funk
To: cday, jschmidt
Date: 19 Dec 1997 (Fri) 15:21
Subject: Blurbs for March 1998 Issue

Chas/Jeff:

Please send blurbs, by the middle of the day tomorrow (Tues Dec 23), for the articles scheduled to appear in our March issue:

Auciello, "Ferroelectric Thin Films"
Ramaty, "Origin of the Light Elements"
Goldstein, "Quantum Theory, Part 2"

Please include related products for each article as this is for the memo I send to advertising. Jeff, thank you, I already have the blurb for the second part of the Goldstein article for March.
Thanks to all, Susan

CC: sbenka, rkobel

S 000383

From: Susan Funk
To: cday, jschmidt
Date: 21 Dec 1997 (Sun) 0:18
Subject: Blurbs for March 1998 Issue

Chas/Jeff:

Please send blurbs, by the middle of the day tomorrow (Tues Dec 23), for the articles scheduled to appear in our March issue:

Auciello, "Ferroelectric Thin Films"
Ramaty, "Origin of the Light Elements"
Goldstein, "Quantum Theory, Part 2"

Please include related products for each article as this is for the memo I send to advertising. Jeff, thank you, I already have the blurb for the second part of the Goldstein article for March.
Thanks to all, Susan

CC: sbenka, rkobel

S 000384

From: Charles Harris
To: pt
Date: 1 Dec 1997 (Mon) 19:09
Subject: aps task force on physics today

Charge to the Task Force

The majority of APS members see *Physics Today* as their most important member benefit. This means that it is of utmost importance for APS that *Physics Today* serves our members well. The APS Task Force on *Physics Today* as an APS Member Benefit will evaluate the content and style of *Physics Today* with the main goal of suggesting ways in which they could better serve the diverse interests of APS members. In carrying out this assignment, members of the Task Force will be asked to keep in mind the funding available for *Physics Today* and the contribution that APS makes to this funding.

The Task Force will meet at least once with the Editor of *Physics Today* and other key people at AIP involved in producing the magazine. As background material, results from a three-year old survey of members of AIP societies concerning *Physics Today* will be available. A new survey is underway and as results become available, they will be shared with the Task Force.

The Task Force will remain in existence for up to one year, but it is expected that most of the work will be completed by the April 17 Council meeting.

Members of the Task Force

Burt Richter, SLAC, Chair
Julia Phillips, Sandia
Ray Baughman, Allied Signal
Jon Pribram, Bates College
Ron Walsworth, Smithsonian Astronomical Observatory and APS Councillor
John Wilkins, Ohio State

S 000385

From: Charles Harris
To: pt
Date: 2 Dec 1997 (Tue) 12:14
Subject: pt survey flash report

The following is a brief report based on the responses received from the first mailing of the 1997 *Physics Today* Readership Survey. A four-page questionnaire was mailed on October 31, 1997 to a sample of U.S.-resident members of the ten AIP Member Societies. To date 337 or 23% of society members responded.

A second follow-up to non-respondents was mailed on December 1 and a third mailing is planned for early January. Readers are cautioned in interpreting the results of this flash report. With past surveys, respondents to the second and third mailings differ from those included in this report along several critical dimensions. In particular, respondents to the first mailing are, as a group, more likely than those responding to subsequent mailings to identify themselves as physicists and to report that they regularly read *Physics Today*. Comparatively few respondents to the first mailing indicate that they regularly scan or seldom look at *PT*.

Highlights

The data paint a positive picture of reader reactions to *Physics Today*.

1. Consistent with the formal mission of *Physics Today*, readers believe that the primary functions of the publication are in rank order:

- to report on significant discoveries in physics,
- to report on the applications of physics,
- to report on important developments that effect the community, and
- to be a forum for the exchange of opinions and ideas.

2. Readers report that *Physics Today* now covers a greater variety of topics both in feature articles and in Search and Discovery than it did several years ago. In addition, readers report that the readability of those sections has also improved. The opinions of physicists compared to other readers are stronger on both of these points. Similarly, APS members are more positive about these changes than are members of the other nine societies.

3. Physics Update, which is a comparatively new feature, is among the three sections that readers turn to first. This finding is consistent regardless of society affiliation or professional self-identification of the reader.

Cautionary comment: Readers of this report should not compare the responses to question #16 in the 1997 questionnaire with a similar question in the 1994 survey. The wording was changed for an important, but subtle, reason. We noted that some of the respondents to the 1994 survey rated the readability of the feature articles from their own perspective, while others rated the readability from the perspective of the audience for whom they were intended. The 1997 questionnaire asks respondents to rate the different sections of *Physics Today* from their own point of view, e.g. I often find feature articles too technical."

S 000386

From: Susan Funk
To: CDAY, JSCHMIDT, apsdpost.GOODWIN
Date: 19 Nov 1997 (Wed) 17:29
Subject: Blurbs for FEBRUARY 1998 issue...

Just a reminder to send me the blurbs for your articles tentatively scheduled to appear in the February 1998 issue. As of now, we will pick three from the four listed on the Tentative Schedule of Articles memo: Blanpied, Auciello, Goldstein, and Gehrels. I need to get the blurbs/related products report to the advertising department as soon as possible because of the holidays next week. Thanks, Susan

S 000387

TONI FEDER

From - Tue Nov 18 01:24:22 1997
Received: from rac10.wam.umd.edu (tfeder@rac10.wam.umd.edu [128.8.10.150])
by po4.wam.umd.edu (8.8.8.Beta2/8.8.7) with ESMTTP id HAA06065
for <jeff@wam.umd.edu>; Sun, 16 Nov 1997 07:59:38 -0500 (EST)
Received: from localhost (tfeder@localhost)
by rac10.wam.umd.edu (8.8.8/8.8.7) with SMTP id HAA02578
for <jeff@wam.umd.edu>; Sun, 16 Nov 1997 07:59:37 -0500 (EST)
X-Authentication-Warning: rac10.wam.umd.edu: tfeder owned process doing -bs
Date: Sun, 16 Nov 1997 07:59:36 -0500 (EST)
From: toni feder <tfeder@wam.umd.edu>
To: Jeff Schmidt <jeff@wam.umd.edu>
Subject: Re: your fan -Reply -Forwarded
In-Reply-To: <346EE92E.4B32@wam.umd.edu>
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.95q.971116075638.2573A-100000@rac10.wam.umd.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII
X-UIDL: 65ac022455fd2aac8c0109f5cfaa9db3
Status: U
X-Mozilla-Status: 0015
Content-Length: 1189

A good questions (about Irwin). I don't know . From the outside, I think one would expect that there always be full departments. The only time I know of Irwin's having been thin was after his heart surgery, when it was non-existant for 2 or 3 months. I've never discussed it with a manager. But, for example, it's clear that the dept is full if one of us goes on vacation ofr 1-2 weeks (or even both of us!). So it seems there would be hesitance to let someone go for 3-4 weeks if that also meant that there would be no dept..... or a skinny one. I don't know.

All for now. I'm actually not really awake yet....
Toni

On Sun, 16 Nov 1997, Jeff Schmidt wrote:

> Hi Toni,
>
> That sounds like a good idea -- writing something that is not very time
> sensitive. One would expect to see that sort of thing in magazines,
> more than in newspapers, anyway. Physics Today could use more
> analytical stuff, reporting of long-term trends and so on. It might be
> worth doing even if you are not thinking about vacations. Besides, I
> don't think you are required to have a full department when you go on
> vacation. Irwin doesn't, does he?
>
> Jeff
>

S 000388

TONI FEDER

From - Sun Nov 16 04:56:33 1997
Received: from annex8-38.dial.umd.edu (annex8-38.dial.umd.edu [128.8.22.182])
by po3.wam.umd.edu (8.8.8.Beta2/8.8.7) with SMTP id EAA24817;
Sun, 16 Nov 1997 04:39:52 -0500 (EST)
Message-ID: <346EE92E.4B32@wam.umd.edu>
Date: Sun, 16 Nov 1997 04:38:07 -0800
From: Jeff Schmidt <jeff@wam.umd.edu>
X-Mailer: Mozilla 3.01Gold (Win16; I)
MIME-Version: 1.0
To: toni feder <tfeder@wam.umd.edu>
CC: jeff@wam.umd.edu
Subject: Re: your fan -Reply -Forwarded
References: <Pine.SOL.3.95q.971115090734.2871B-100000@rac6.wam.umd.edu>
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
X-UIDL: 5109b2e66677e9fe31dd36dfe940b77a
Status: U
X-Mozilla-Status: 0015
Content-Length: 478

Hi Toni,

That sounds like a good idea -- writing something that is not very time sensitive. One would expect to see that sort of thing in magazines, more than in newspapers, anyway. Physics Today could use more analytical stuff, reporting of long-term trends and so on. It might be worth doing even if you are not thinking about vacations. Besides, I don't think you are required to have a full department when you go on vacation. Irwin doesn't, does he?

Jeff

S 000389

From: Graham Collins
To: CDAY, PELLIOT, TFEDER, SFUNK, apsdpost.GOODWIN, i:...
Date: 7 Nov 1997 (Fri) 17:07
Subject: Index category reminder

Just a reminder to everyone to tell Judy the index categories for your December items as early as possible.

-- Graham

CC: JBARKER, SBENKA

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From: Bert Schwarzschild
To: ACP.AIP(CDAY, CHARRIS, CLUCAS, EPLOTKIN, GCOLLINS,...
Date: 6 Nov 1997 (Thu) 14:34
Subject: Re: Index categories -Reply -Reply -Reply

I'm against exluding short news items fromthe index. I often have occasion to look
them up.
Bert

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From: Gloria Lubkin
To: ACP.AIP(BSCHWARZ, CDAY, CHARRIS, CLUCAS, EPLOTKIN,...)
Date: 6 Nov 1997 (Thu) 10:40
Subject: Re: Index categories -Reply -Reply

I am opposed to a categorical limitation of three entries per item. If we find the index is occupying too much space in the magazine, we might consider not indexing short items. That was the way we used to handle briefs, for example. They simply were not indexed since generally briefs dealt with items that were not very important. Or we could limit the number of entries for short items but not limit the number for longer or more significant items. As far as I understand, offering a more complete index on line doesn't offer the long-term preservation that a hard-copy index does.

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From: Jean A. Kumagai <jak@interport.net>
To: Barbara Levi <bgl@worldnet.att.net>
Date: 1 Oct 1997 (Wed) 9:41
Subject: Re: PT forum

Hi, Barbara

Thanks for your thoughts on the "reader viewpoint" section; we'll use them in drafting our proposal, which will be sent around to the staff for comments. Besides Toni and I, the other people who volunteered to work on the committee are Jeff, Graham and Judy. I have copied your message below and am copying this message to the others, so there's no need for you to forward yours to them.

thanks again,
Jean

9/28/97 message from Barbara:

>Jean, Toni and others (who else was supposed to be on the committee to
>propose questions? Let me know so I can forward this to them):
>
>Here are a few initial thoughts about the forum you proposed. The list is
>incomplete. I'll keep thinking.
>
>I suggest a few criteria for the questions that we ask:
>
>1. They should be fairly uniquely related to our audience. That doesn't
>mean they have to be physics questions but they should be ones where people
>>want to know what other physicists think.
>
>2. They should be ones where we do not expect extremely polarized views,
>such as simply for or against some proposal. We might as well conduct a
>survey. Rather, they should be questions where we might expect a spectrum
>of hopefully thoughtful answers. That, to me, would be far more interesting.
>
>>From that point of view, I wonder if the question about affirmative action
>on campuses is the best one to start with. That question could be posed by
>any group associated with the academic world, not just scientists.
>
>We might keep in mind that only a third of our audience is associated with
>universities as professions (obviously, they all pass through universities
>to get their training) so we might want to have some questions that would
>include researchers at national labs and in industry.
>
>So here are some of my ideas:
>
>1. I start with a few questions aimed at the graduate student. They would
>have to be honed. I just wanted to get some ideas across. (One problem I
>had in drafting these questions was that I didn't want to put the graduate
>student on the spot):
> a. The APS and AAPT (and other organizations, too?) are considering
>ways to broaden your education as a physicist, by adding, for example,
>courses on writing, seminars on opportunities in industry or more
>interdisciplinary courses. Do you welcome these reforms? Have you seen any
>changes yet at your university?
> b. One suggestion for improving the job market for physicists has
>been to reduce the number of slots for physics graduate students in US
>universities. What is your reaction to that proposal?
> c. How well are physicists communicating with one another? In
>particular, what is your opinion of the weekly seminars in your department?
> d. Did your department give you good training to be a teaching
>assistant? What advice would you have for those just starting to be TA's?
>
>Actually, the more I think about it, the more I like that last question
>about communication. We could think about broadening it to include the
>talks at meetings as well as the seminar talks. I thought of asking the
>student about the teaching quality but felt that students would be reluctant
>to speak about the profs at their own university.
>
>2. Questions not necessarily directed at students:
>
> a. Some question about large physics projects, such as: Would you

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Received: from [207.38.249.138] (ts4port10.port.net [207.38.249.138])
by madison.interport.net (8.8.5/8.8.5) with SMTP id JAA21423;
Wed, 1 Oct 1997 09:41:12 -0400 (EDT)
Date: Wed, 1 Oct 1997 09:41:12 -0400 (EDT)
X-Sender: jak@pop.interport.net
Message-Id: <v01530502b057ca83284d@[207.38.249.138]>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable
To: Barbara Levi <bgl@worldnet.att.net>
From: jak@interport.net (Jean A. Kumagai)
Subject: Re: PT forum
Cc: jak@interport.net, tfeder@aip.acp.org, jschmidt@aip.acp.org,
gcollins@aip.org, jbarker@aip.org

S 000395

From: Jean A. Kumagai <jak@interport.net>
To: Charles Day <cday@aip.org>
Date: 1 Oct 1997 (Wed) 10:01
Subject: Re: Suggested questions for PC's new issues forum

Hi, Chas

Thanks for your proposed questions for the "reader viewpoint" section. I'm copying this message to the other people who agreed to work on drafting a proposal for the section (Jeff, Graham and Judy), so that they can take a look too.

Jean

>Hello Toni and Jean,

>

>Here are some questions/issues for Physics Community's planned issues
>forum. (Sorry, I can't remember what you're going to call it!). I think
>all of them could do with being rephrased.

>

- >1. Did high-school physics prepare you for college physics?
- >2. Doing a postdoc abroad: have you done it, would you do it?
- >3. How, if at all, does being a physicist affect your appreciation of nature?
- >4. Would you have worked on the Manhattan Project?
- >5. What should NASA's [DOE, NSF etc.] top scientific research priority be?
- >6. What do you wish you'd had a course on in graduate school?
- >7. Dirac, early in his career, switched from engineering to physics: would
> you change career in the opposite direction?
- >8. Given the shortage of tenure-track positions in US physics departments,
> should applications from outside the US be restricted?
- >9. After doing how many postdocs should you throw in the towel and give
> up trying to get a permanent job in physics?
- >10. Is it worth teaching physics to non-physics majors?

>

>Chas

CC: ACP.AIP(jschmidt,tfeder,GCOLLINS,JBARKER)

S 000396

Received: from [207.38.249.138] (ts4port10.port.net [207.38.249.138])
by madison.interport.net (8.8.5/8.8.5) with SMTP id KAA24352;
Wed, 1 Oct 1997 10:01:53 -0400 (EDT)
Date: Wed, 1 Oct 1997 10:01:53 -0400 (EDT)
X-Sender: jak@pop.interport.net
Message-Id: <v01530503b057cc248a0c@[207.38.249.138]>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
To: Charles Day <cday@aip.org>
From: jak@interport.net (Jean A. Kumagai)
Subject: Re: Suggested questions for PC's new issues forum
Cc: jak@interport.net, tfeder@aip.acp.org, jschmidt@aip.acp.org,
gcollins@aip.org, jbarker@aip.org

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From: Charles Day
To: AIP_NY.AIPGate("jak@interport.net")
Date: 1 Oct 1997 (Wed) 10:07
Subject: Re: Suggested questions for PC's new issues forum -Reply

Here are two more:

11. Should AIP encourage cooperative research with China?
12. To what extent has the internet improved your work?

CC: ACP.AIP(gcollins, jbarker, JSCHMIDT), AIP_NY.AIPGa...

S 000398

From: Susan Funk
To: SBENKA, JBARKER, PELLIOT, TFEDER, GLUBKIN, JSCHMID...
Date: 24 Oct 1997 (Fri) 11:35
Subject: John Rigden's Replacement Announcement

A note to those who were not present, the official announcement was made today, 10:30am, by Marc Brodsky. Jim Stith, Ohio State University, will replace John Rigden as Director of Physics Programs beginning half-time in January 1998 due to professorship commitments. In March 1998, he will assume full responsibilities. In the interim, beginning November 5, 1997, Marc Brodsky will be acting director and Charles Harris and Spencer Weart will be acting assistant directors.
Thanks, Susan

S 000399

From: Charles Harris
To: pt
Date: 5 Nov 1997 (Wed) 17:56
Subject: Staff Directory on HomePage

i have comments from most of you, which i can distill, but perhaps in our up coming staff meeting (wed. 12 nov.) we can spend a few minutes discussing.

we have agenda items (copy flow and communications), but does any one want to add any thing else?

steve is going to be away. is any one else not planning to attend?

S 000400